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CITY OF PERTH



# REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*For the Year 1955*

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CITY OF PERTH

# REPORT


*UPON THE*

HEALTH OF PERTH

FOR THE YEAR 1955

JOHN M. AITKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

WILLIAM McBRYDE, F.R.San.I.,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



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Health Department,  
22 York Place,  
Perth,

*June, 1956.*

*to the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the City and Royal  
Burgh of Perth, and to the Department of Health for Scotland.*

My Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my eighth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health of the City of Perth for the year ending 31st December, 1955.

Probably the most outstanding achievement recorded in this report is the very small number of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis. There were only 25 new cases notified during the year compared with 75 in 1950.

I am deeply grateful to the Lord Provost and members of the Town Council for their interest and support in the work of the Health Department.

My colleagues in the other Departments of the Corporation have been most helpful at all times and to them I would like to offer my most warm thanks.

To all the members of the staff of the Health Department I would like to say—thank you for a year's work well done.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,  
JOHN M. AITKEN,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*





# Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the City of Perth for the Year 1955.

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## VITAL STATISTICS.

**Population :** The population as estimated by the Registrar General at 30th June, 1955, was 40,955, being an increase of 134 compared with the 1954 figure. The population density is 9.6 per acre.

**Birth Rate :** There was a decrease of 3 in the corrected number of births for 1955 as compared with the 1954 figure. The actual birth rate was 16.1 which is slightly lower than the rate for Scotland which was 18.0 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for large burghs was 19.2.

**Illegitimate Birth Rate :** The illegitimate birth rate fell to 5.8 as compared with 6.9 per 100 births for 1954. The rate for Scotland was 4.3 and for large burghs 3.7.

**Still Birth Rate :** The still birth rate showed a considerable decrease, being 13 per 1,000 births as compared with 29 for the previous year. The rate for large burghs and for the whole of Scotland was 25.

**Death Rate :** The death rate for 1955 was 12.2 per 1,000 of the population compared with 11.8 for the previous year. The rate adjusted for age and sex distribution was 11. The rate for the whole of Scotland was 12 and for large burghs 11.5.

**Infant Mortality :** The infant mortality rate was 32 per 1,000 live births being an increase in the figure for last year which was 30 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the whole of Scotland was 30 and for large burghs 33.

**Maternal Deaths :** There were no maternal deaths during the year. The rate for the whole of Scotland was .5 per 1,000 births.

**Deaths from Tuberculosis :** During the year there were 8 deaths from this disease, giving a death rate of .2 per 1,000 of the population as compared with .27 for the previous year. The rate for the whole of Scotland was .19 and for large burghs .24. During the year there were no deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis.

**Deaths from Infectious Diseases :** During the year there were two deaths from the principal infectious diseases, giving a death rate of .05 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for the whole of Scotland was .05 and for large burghs .04.

**Deaths from Cancer :** Of the deaths registered 95 were due to cancer, being an increase of 14 from the previous year, and giving a death rate of 2.3 per 1,000 of the population.

**Marriages :** The number of marriages registered in the district was 50 giving a rate of 12.3 compared with 8.4 per 1,000 of the population for the whole of Scotland and 9.7 for large burghs.

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

**Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics :** The existing arrangements for these clinics have continued to prove satisfactory. There was an increase of 966 in the total number of attendances at the ante-natal clinic compared with the attendances during 1954, the total number of attendances being 6,842 of which 4,199 were in respect of City patients. A total of 1,000 attended during the year and of that number 483 were resident in the City. 432 persons attended for post-natal examination.

**Child Welfare Clinics :** The attendances at these clinics during the year totalled 10,539 compared with 10,322 for 1954. Again I should like to thank the members of the Ladies Committee for the work they do at the Child Welfare Centres. The following ladies gave their services voluntarily during the past year :—

Mrs. Andrew, Murray Crescent.  
 Mrs. Childs, Glover Street.  
 Mrs. Douglas, Langley Road, Scone.  
 Miss Macdonald, 23 Oakbank Road.  
 Miss McLeod, 22 Priory Place.  
 Mrs. Panton, Muiredge, Burghmuir.  
 Mrs. Gavigan, Balhousie Street.

**Toddlers Clinic :** 282 children were examined at this clinic during the year.

**Premature Infants :** It was not necessary to transfer any premature infants to Perth Infirmary for special care and attention.

Of the 627 births in respect of persons whose usual place of residence is within the City, 39 were premature, and of this number 5 were born at home and 34 in hospital.

**Unmarried Mothers and their Children :** 6 unmarried mothers and their children whose permanent address was within the City, were provided with care and attention at Melville House, 129 Scott Street. During the year this voluntary organisation carried out the work connected with 11 adoption cases, being a decrease of 10 compared with the previous year.

**Welfare Foods Department :** During the year the following welfare foods were sold at the Distribution Centres at 22 York Place and the Child Welfare Clinics :

	22 York Place	Child Welfare Clinics
National Dried Milk . . . .	17695 tins	5311 tins
Cod Liver Oil . . . .	4047 bottles	1570 bottles
Orange Juice . . . .	23460 bottles	8994 bottles
Vitamin Tablets . . . .	1557 pkts.	448 pkts.

In addition the following proprietary foods were sold at the Child Welfare Clinics during the year.

- 4845 packets of dried milk.
- 513 strained foods.
- 1203 vitamin preparations.
- 757 packets of cereal.
- 782 other foods.
- 39 Child Welfare instruction books.

**Day Nurseries :** The number of attendances at the day nurseries was:—

Florence Place	11,062
Westbank	1,752 (closed 16/7/55)

The average daily attendance at Florence Place Nursery during the year was 40.

**Residential Nursery :** This Nursery was closed in July and up to that time 23 cases had been admitted.

**Training of Nursery Nurses :** The scheme for training of nursery nurses continued as formerly. During the year 4 students completed their first year and 3 their second year of training. 3 students passed the examination and gained the Nursery Nurses Certificate.

**Children's Homes :** During the year 68 children under 5 years of age and 43 over five years of age were admitted to the Children's Homes. The medical treatment continues to be provided by each child's family doctor. The Medical Officers of the Health Department continue to pay regular visits to the Homes.

**Nurseries and Child Minders Act, 1948 :** No nursery premises are registered in the area and there are no persons registered as child minders.

**Dental Care :** During the year 182 applications were received under the priority dental scheme. There were no applications in respect of pre-school children. The total number was in respect of nursing and expectant mothers. Fees paid to dentists in practice under the scheme amounted to £469.

**Birth Notifications :** There were 1101 births notified as occurring within the City, being a decrease of 7 from the previous year. In 618 cases the usual place of residence was within the City and was a decrease of 9 compared with the 1955 figure. 31 per cent of the City births was confined at home. 82 per cent of all the births notified occurred in maternity hospitals or nursing homes.

**Infant Mortality Rate :** There was an increase in the infant mortality rate, the figure for 1955 being 32 per 1,000 births compared with 30 for the previous year. The rate for the whole of Scotland was 30 and for large burghs 33.

48 per cent of the deaths of children under one year occurred in the first month of life as compared with 80 per cent during 1954. Of the deaths occurring in the first month, 6 occurred within 48 hours of birth. Of these six, all the mothers, with the exception of one, were confined in hospital. For the causes of death reference should be made to Table No. 4.

**Prevention of Break-up of Families :** Following upon the publication of circular No. 77/1954 by the Department of Health for Scotland, the Town Council agreed to set up a committee comprising the following persons :—

The Medical Officer of Health.  
The Sanitary Inspector.  
The Welfare Officer.  
The Children's Officer.  
The City Factor.  
The Housing Inspector.  
The Housing Supervisor.  
The Probation Officers.

An invitation was extended to the local Officer of the Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to attend the meeting and this invitation was accepted.

The Committee meets monthly under the chairmanship of the Medical Officer of Health. Problems of mutual interest are freely discussed and a much valuable exchange of information takes place. There is no doubt that since this committee was formed the number of visits to problem families has been greatly reduced. It is usually left to one official to supervise a particular problem rather than each official paying a visit in connection with his own particular specialty. This system has led to a very high degree of co-operation among the various departments of the Corporation.

Even after one year's working of this Committee it has already become apparent that many families are prevented from becoming "Problem Families" by the timely advice and help given by the various officials.

**Marriage Guidance Council :** This Council has now been formed and is known as the Perth and Perthshire Marriage Guidance Council. The acute need for such an organisation in the area was shown by the fact that before the Council got properly under way three persons had sought the advice of the Council. The Town Council have been most helpful and encouraging and have agreed to the Marriage Guidance Council having the use of the Child Welfare premises at weekly intervals. The Council have made a financial grant. It is hoped in the very near future to hold classes for engaged and newly married couples to advise them on financial, social, and religious aspects of married life.

**Family Planning Clinic :** During the year the number of attendances at this clinic totalled 598. Of the 173 new cases who attended during the year 73 belonged to the City of Perth and 98 to other areas.



## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

The arrangements for this service entered into between the County and Town Councils in 1951 have continued to work very satisfactorily. **Medical Inspections :** During the year the Medical Officers of the Health Department carried out 2,084 routine medical inspections. In addition 437 special examinations, 578 vision examinations, and 649 re-examinations were carried out. 233 children in part-time employment were also examined. 21,831 examinations were carried out by the school nurses, principally in connection with cleanliness inspections and the follow-up of children found to be suffering from defects at routine medical inspections.

As a result of the routine inspections it was found that 77.75 per cent of the children examined were healthy. 2.5 per cent showed evidence of dirty heads. 1.75 per cent of the children examined suffered from squints. 4.6 per cent of all the children examined were found to be suffering from some abnormality of the ear nose or throat, and 21 per cent of all those examined suffered from other defects.

A synopsis of the work carried out by the Health Department is contained in Tables No. 9, 10, 11 and 12. For more detailed information reference should be made to the report of the County Medical Officer.

**B.C.G. Vaccination :** Of the 596 children born during 1942 who attend City schools acceptances for B.C.G. vaccination were received in respect of 550, giving an acceptance rate of 92 per cent. During 1955, 522 children were tested under this scheme and of those tested 419 received B.C.G. vaccine. In addition 873 children who had been vaccinated previously were retested and all but 2 of them showed a positive reaction.

Since the scheme started in 1953, 2,464 children have been tested and 5710 received B.C.G. vaccine.

## DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

The combined domiciliary midwifery and nursing service has now been in operation for two years. The combined service has proved a very great success. The services of midwifery, nursing, health visiting, and domestic help are under the supervision of the Superintendent Nursing Officer. This arrangement in a town of this size makes the task of co-ordination of these services an extremely simple one.

8 full-time nurse/midwives are now employed, whilst one midwife in private practice is employed on a case basis.

In addition to the four gas and air machines already in use, one Trilene inhaler was purchased and arrangements have been made for all the nurses to have instruction in the use of this machine.

During the year 7 pupil midwives from Perth Royal Infirmary received instruction and training from the nurses on the district. The Medical Officer of the Health Department gave two courses of five lectures each to the pupil midwives at the Maternity Department of the Infirmary.

**Maternity Outfits :** Outfits continue to be provided to maternity cases, distribution being undertaken either by the midwife in charge of the case or by the patient or a relative calling at the Health Department to collect the container.

**Supervision of Midwives :** The equipment and records of the midwives practising in the area are inspected at regular intervals by the Superintendent Nursing Officer in her capacity as Supervisor of Midwives.

**Domiciliary Confinements :** 233 applications for maternity services were received during the year. This number compares with 224 during 1954. 190 confinements were conducted during the year as compared with 217 during 1954. An additional 19 cases who received ante-natal care by the domiciliary midwives were later admitted to hospital. No private cases were conducted at home during the year.

**Analgesia :** All the midwives employed by the Local Authority hold the certificate for the administration of gas and air analgesia. Four gas and air outfits have now been supplied to the midwives, and during the year 145 patients received gas and air analgesia. In addition 117 patients were given pethidine.

During the year authority was given to purchase one inhaler for the administration of Trilene and this machine is now in use. All the nurse/midwives have now received their training at Perth Royal Infirmary in the administration of Trilene.

## HOME NURSING.

The number of visits paid to the houses of patients increases year by year as is evidenced by the following figures :—

1953 — 13,464 visits

1954 — 14,461 visits

1955 — 16,225 visits

In order to deal adequately with the increased work the staff of Nurse Midwives was increased by one. Nurse McNicol who previously worked with the Perth Sick Nursing Society and who was ultimately employed by the Town Council retired. It will be recalled that Nurse McNicol was employed full time on nursing duties. She has now been replaced by a Nurse/Midwife. The duties of home nursing are now carried out by 8 full-time nurse/midwives.

Of the 16,225 visits paid by the nurses, no less than 11,126 which is almost 70 per cent, were paid to the homes of aged persons. In all 903 patients received nursing care, 414 (or 46%) being aged persons.

There has been an increase of 2,764 visits compared with 1953. Of the total of 16,225 visits, 7,108 were for the purpose of giving injections of one kind or another—penicillin, streptomycin, morphia, insulin, etc.

## MEDICAL LOAN DEPOT.

183 articles were loaned out during the year to persons being nursed at home. The following is a list of the articles which are available for loan:—

Bed pans.	Bed bottles.
Bed rests.	Bed cages.
Air rings.	Mackintosh sheets.

## NURSING HOMES (SCOTLAND) REGISTRATION ACT, 1938.

The one home in the City registered under this Act was visited during the year and was found to be satisfactory. Medical, surgical, and midwifery cases are cared for in this home.

## HEALTH VISITING.

Owing to the acute shortage of Health Visitors at no time during the year was it possible to employ the full establishment of 7 Health Visitors. One Visitor continues to be employed full-time on the work of the School Medical Service. Whilst another normally employed full time on tuberculosis prevention work has been assisting with work in connection with the Home Help service and general Child Welfare work. This has been made possible on account of the greatly reduced number of new notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis.

During the year in co-operation with the County Health Department further opportunity was afforded to the Health Visitors to attend a short refresher course given by local general practitioners and specialists.

The following is a list of the visits carried out by the Health Visitors:—

Children under 1 year of age	. . .	2,708	visits
Children 1 to 5 years of age	. . .	3,687	„
Expectant mothers	. . .	313	„
Persons receiving Home Help	. . .	476	„
Aged persons	. . .	287	„
Tuberculosis cases	. . .	1,522	„
Visits on behalf of Almoners	. . .	21	„
Visits on behalf of general practitioners	. . .	32	„
Other visits	. . .	162	„
School Health Service :			

No. of examinations carried out . . . 21,831

## DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME.

This service continues to expand year by year. There are now 17 full-time and 8 part-time helps employed.

During the year a total of 172 households received help for the following reasons :—

(1)	Age and infirmity . . . .	102
(2)	Illness . . . .	41
(3)	Confinements . . . .	17
(4)	Tuberculosis . . . .	9
(5)	Blind Persons . . . .	3
Total		172

As is shown by the figures above, the greatest use of the service made by aged persons, principally those living alone. Gifts of flower fruit, etc., continue to be sent to some of the old folks on the occasion of their birthdays through the bequest of Miss Duffin. The pleasure that this scheme brings is shown by the many letters of thanks written by the old people themselves, some of which indicate that it is the first time in 30 years that anyone had remembered their birthday.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

**Vaccination Against Smallpox :** 594 primary vaccinations were carried out during the year, being an increase of 41 compared with the previous year. Of these, 247 were carried out at the Local Authority's clinics, the remainder being done by general practitioners.

As the result of a survey carried out at the end of the year it was found that 83 per cent of City children entering school had been vaccinated against smallpox. Of all the children examined at routine medical inspections at City schools, 82 per cent were found to have been vaccinated.

In all 95 re-vaccinations were carried out, principally for the purpose of issuing vaccination certificates in respect of people proceeding abroad.

**Immunisation Against Diphtheria :** This is now the eighth consecutive year in which there has been no case of diphtheria in the City, and it is now 10 years since a child died from this disease. A survey at the end of the year showed that 97% of entrants to school had been immunised against diphtheria. Of all the children examined at routine medical inspections at City Schools almost 96% were found to have been immunised against diphtheria.

762 children were immunised for the first time during the year compared with 690 during the previous year. Of these, 382 were immunised at the Child Welfare Centres and 380 by general practitioners. 537 of these children were inoculated against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

663 children received re-inforcing inoculations on their entry to school. 197 of these inoculations were carried out at the Child Welfare Centres, 140 by medical officers at routine medical inspections at schools and 324 by medical practitioners.

**Triple Antigen :** Triple antigen has now been in use for almost a complete year and is proving very acceptable to the mothers as the



now only require to make three attendances in order to provide protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus.

**Immunisation Against Whooping Cough :** During the year, 598 children were immunised against whooping cough, 61 receiving injections for whooping cough alone and 537 injection with the triple antigen.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS — CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

### A. Tuberculosis.

**Tracing of Infection :** 376 contacts of cases of tuberculosis were examined during the year compared with 285 during the previous year. Of the contacts examined none was found to be suffering from tuberculosis, but 12 have been kept under observation.

**Admissions to Hospital :** During the year 43 cases of respiratory tuberculosis were admitted to sanatoria. At the end of the year no case was awaiting admission to hospital.

**Housing :** 14 families in which there was a case of tuberculosis were rehoused during the year, making a total of 152 such families rehoused during the past 8 years.

The marked decline in the incidence of tuberculosis in the City referred to in other parts of the Report is in my opinion in no small measure due to the speedy rehousing of tuberculosis families and in this connection I should like to thank the Convener and members of the House Management Committee for the sympathetic consideration they have given to such families. To the City Factor and the members of his staff my thanks are due for their helpful and willing co-operation.

**Notifications :** There were only 25 new notifications of respiratory tuberculosis compared with 40 during the previous year. It is very pleasing to record that this is the fifth consecutive year in which there has been a decrease in the number of new notifications. In 1950 the number of new notifications was 75.

The number of notifications of non-respiratory tuberculosis was 5 compared with 13 during the previous year.

**Supply of Extra Nourishment, Nursing Requisites, etc. :** Cod liver oil and malt continue to be given free of charge where necessary, 282 jars being issued during the year. 83 persons were supplied during the year with one pint of milk per day at a total cost of £637. During the year 2 persons were supplied with bed and bedding. 1 sputum flask, 5 mugs, and 129 tins of disinfectant were issued to domiciliary cases.

**Co-operation with Ministry of Labour :** 17 men and 9 women suffering from tuberculosis were placed in suitable employment during the year.

**Mass Radiography :** A total of 2,398 persons were examined by mass radiography during 1955. Of this number 71 were found to have abnormalities and of these 3 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis. The following groups were given an opportunity to be x-rayed during the year :—

Pullars of Perth.  
John Campbell, Ltd.  
James Macdonald & Sons.  
Alexander & Brown.  
Perth Corporation staff.  
Perth & Kinross County Council staff.  
John Dewar & Sons, Ltd.  
Staff and pupils of Perth City Schools.

The total number of examinations carried out by the mass radiography unit since its inception in 1950 is 14,734. As a result of these examinations 48 cases of tuberculosis have been discovered.

**B.C.G. Vaccination :** 66 contacts of cases of tuberculosis were tested and as a result 55 were vaccinated with B.C.G. vaccine. In addition 58 nurses were tested and of that number 16 received B.C.G. 21 newly born infants were also immunised. During the year 2 children were admitted to Westbank Nursery for B.C.G. vaccination.

During the year 285 pupils were tested at Perth High School and of these 231 were immunised. Of 197 children tested at the Academy 157 were immunised, and as a result of 40 children being tested at St. John's School 31 were immunised.

Since 1950, 3,479 persons have been tested and of these 2,157 have been vaccinated against this disease. During this period 68 infants have also received B.C.G. vaccine.

### **B. Epileptics and Spastics.**

There is little to add to the information supplied in last year's annual report regarding persons suffering from these maladies. Three further cases of epilepsy have come to our notice during the past year.

### **C. Convalescent Home Provision.**

No convalescent homes are maintained by the local authority.

### **D. Chiropody Services in the City.**

**Rosslyn House :** The Chiropodist continues to visit the Home one day per month.

**Perth Old People's Welfare Council :** During the year difficulty has been experienced by the Old People's Welfare Council in obtaining the services of a chiropodist. An approach for assistance has been made to the Local Authority and an attempt has been made to obtain the services of a private chiropodist on a sessional basis.

## CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were 104 cases of infectious disease notified to me during the year, being a decrease of 244 from the previous year. As already mentioned in this report this is the eighth year in succession in which there has been no case of diphtheria and it is now ten years since there was a death from this disease in the City.

**Scarlet Fever :** During the year there was a marked decrease in the number of notifications of scarlet fever. In all 43 cases were notified as compared with 128 in the previous year. Of the 43 cases notified 14 were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths from this disease.

**Whooping Cough :** 14 cases were notified as compared with 134 in 1954. In no instance was admission to hospital necessary. There were no deaths from this disease during the year.

**Poliomyelitis :** There were four cases of this disease notified in the area during the year compared with two cases during the previous year. The ages of the patients were 5, 7, 13, and 17 respectively. Three of the cases made very good recoveries. The fourth case has some residual paralysis necessitating the use of a walking caliper.

**Dysentery :** 8 cases of dysentery were notified during the year, 2 cases being admitted to hospital.

## HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

40 cases of infectious disease were admitted to King's Cross Hospital, Dundee, compared with 144 in 1954. Of that number 14 were cases of scarlet fever, 2 dysentery, 4 poliomyelitis, 4 impetigo, 1 scabies, 3 venereal disease and the remainder for observation, etc.

## FOOD POISONING.

During the year three cases of food poisoning came to the notice of the Department. In two of the cases the source of infection was traced to sandwiches which had been prepared by a food handler suffering from a staphylococcal infection of the nose.

## WATER SUPPLY.

1955 was an exceptionally dry year and during August the River Tay reached the lowest level in the Water Department's records. Owing to this low level throughout July and August the yield of the filters fell below the normal requirements of the district, while for a short period at the end of July the demand rose to nearly 15% above normal, but as a result of warnings issued through the medium of the Press was quickly reduced almost to normal. Measures were taken to increase the yield of the filters and a full supply was maintained without the necessity of imposing any restrictions on the use of water. The absence of spates helped

greatly in the control of algal growths and throughout the summer the reservoirs were kept free from this troublesome vegetation. The bacteriological quality of the water distributed was uniformly of the highest standard.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

It is pleasing to record that the Education Authority now have definite plans for the setting up of an Occupation Centre and the establishment of a residential school for physically and mentally handicapped school children. At the time of writing an Educational Psychologist has been appointed and it is hoped that very soon a Child Guidance Clinic for the area will be functioning. All these are very important steps forward and will fill a very great need in the district.

During the year 31 City cases and 10 County cases were seen at the Clinic for mental deficiency. None of the City cases was admitted to hospital, all being kept under observation.

**Mental Illness :** 21 cases of mental illness were admitted to hospital during the year, 15 of whom were certified. At the end of the year there were no cases of mental illness being cared for at home, whilst 142 were being cared for in institutions as compared with 139 at the end of 1954.

**Mental Deficiency :** One case of mental deficiency was certified during the year and was admitted to an institution for mental defectives. No case was recertified on reaching the age of 16 years. Three cases were placed under guardianship during the year. At the end of 1955, 42 cases of mental deficiency were under treatment in mental institutions and 10 were being cared for at home.

## HEALTH EDUCATION.

6 health talks and film shows were given during the year in the area as follows :

- 24th January — Letham Kirk Woman's Guild.
- 21st February — St. John's Kirk Mothers' Fellowship.
- 14th March — Union of Catholic Mothers.
- 11th November— Perth Academy Parent/Teacher Association.
- 22nd November — Union of Catholic Mothers.
- 24th November— Royal College of Nursing.

In June a school exhibition was held at Perth High School in which the Health Department was asked to participate. A display dealing with health topics was arranged and very great interest was shown by the pupils in the literature of the Scottish Council for Health Education which was freely available during the two days of the exhibition. Film shows dealing with many health topics were given during the period of the exhibition.



## VENEREAL DISEASES.

6 new cases of acquired syphilis were treated during the year as compared with 8 during 1954. 14 new cases of gonorrhoea were treated during the year, the number being the same as for the previous year.

## ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICE.

93 pre-school children attended for the first time at the Orthopaedic Clinic. At the end of the year 309 pre-school City children were attending for treatment and supervision. 9 of these cases were admitted to hospital.

## ACCIDENTS.

**Vehicular :** 180 accidents resulting from vehicular traffic were reported to the Chief Constable, being an increase of 44 from the previous year. As a result of these accidents 195 persons were injured, 2 fatally, 47 seriously, and 146 slightly. 72 of the injured persons were under 15 years of age.

**Non-Vehicular :** 134 non-vehicular accidents involving 136 persons were brought to the notice of the Police. 13 of those persons died, 33 were seriously injured and 59 slightly injured. The other 31 were persons taking ill on the street.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

During 1955 considerable alterations and improvements were made to the interior of Rosslyn House. Washhand basins were fitted into all bedrooms ; work was begun on the installation of an electric lift and this should prove of great benefit to the more crippled residents ; and a system of central heating has been practically completed throughout the Home. These alterations necessitated the residents being moved about the Home to a considerable extent, but they have all been most helpful, appreciating that ultimately the alterations would result in advantage and added comfort to themselves. It is anticipated that the whole scheme of alterations will be completed by midsummer 1956.

During the year there was an average of 70 persons in residence in the Home. One mental defective who is under guardianship still remains in the Home, but he will be transferred whenever a suitable vacancy occurs elsewhere.

The Chiropodist attends one day each month at the Home, and this service is greatly appreciated by the residents. Mainly on account of advanced years, failing eyesight, or being crippled, only a few of the residents are able to take advantage of the scheme of occupational therapy which the Red Cross Society have continued to provide. The library service provided by the Sandeman Library is greatly appreciated, and the

old folks look forward eagerly to the visits by the lady members of the churches throughout the town, who each month take a turn to visit the Home. The local branch of the W.V.S. continued the excellent service of providing a mobile shop each Monday evening, enabling the residents to purchase sweets, biscuits, fruit, etc.

During the year numerous entertainments, treats and concerts were given by voluntary organisations, and a visit to Chipperfields Circus was greatly enjoyed by a large number of the residents.

The Town Council have already provided 12 houses in the Moncreiffe Scheme and 24 have been earmarked in the Letham Scheme for aged persons, but as 200 2-apartment houses are to be erected in the Letham area, 66 having already been completed, it is possible that the Town Council may eventually allocate more than the original 24 specifically earmarked for aged persons.

Bowerswell is the only voluntary home in the City registered under the Act, and the Home and cottages attached have proved of great value to the community.

At the end of the year arrangements were well in hand for the establishment of a Meals on Wheels Service, and at the time of writing this has now been put into operation. This service is operated by the W.V.S. in co-operation with the Old People's Welfare Council, and the Town Council. The Town Council provided the equipment and bears a share of the cost of the meals. The Old People's Welfare Council make a contribution towards the cost of each meal, and the W.V.S. arrange for the delivery.

During the year the power contained under Section 47 of the Act for the compulsory removal from their homes of certain persons requiring care and attention was not used. There were few of these cases this year and removals were eventually carried out with the approval of the persons concerned.

The property of 4 persons had to be taken care of during the year and 4 burials were arranged.

Once again it is pleasing to record that the good work of the following voluntary bodies in the City continued during the year, viz :—

The Society for Teaching the Blind to Read in the County of Perth and Kinross.

The Perth Mission to the Deaf and Dumb.

The Perth Old People's Welfare Council, the Old Age Pensioners Association, Indigent Old Men's Society, and the Society for the Relief of Indigent Ladies continued their good work during the year in the visitation of aged people who are homebound, etc. The work of visitation performed by these bodies and others is worthy of sincere appreciation.

**Other Voluntary Organisations :** New voluntary organisations whose aims and objects are concerned with the health and welfare of the citizens of the City have been set up in recent months. These consist of:—

- (1) Perth Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.
- (2) Hard of Hearing Club.
- (3) Perth Branch of the British Diabetic Association.
- (4) Perth and Perthshire Group of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship.

TABLE No. 1.  
VITAL STATISTICS.

Estimated Population (middle of 1955), 40,955. Area of Burgh, 4,122 acres.  
 Population (1951 Census), 40,466. No. of Inhabited Houses, 12,825  
 Estimated Pre-School Population, 3,314. Gross Valuation, £559,875 6s 7d  
 Estimated School Population, 6,978. Rateable Value, £530,122

	Cor- rected Number	Rate per 1,000 of estimated Popu- lation	Corres- ponding Rate for 1954	Rate for	
				Scot- land	Large Burghs
Births (total live births) .	659	16.1	16.2	18.0	19.2
Births—Illegitimate (per 100 live births) . . . .	38	5.8	6.8	4.3	3.7
Still births (per 1,000 births, including still births) .	9	13.0	29.0	25	25
Deaths (all causes) . . .	498	12.2	11.8	12.0	11.5
Tuberculosis (all forms) .	8	.20	.27	.19	.24
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	8	.20	.27	.17	.21
Epidemic Diseases . . .	2	.05	.05	.05	.04
Children under 1 year (per 1,000 live births) .	21	32.0	30.0	30	33
Children under 1 month (per 1,000 live births) .	10	15.0	24.0	20	—
Women in childbirth (per 1,000 births, including still births) . . . .	—	—	—	.5	—



TABLE No. 2.

## DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

	Number	Rate per 1,000 of the Population	Corresponding Rate for 1954
Deaths from Influenza .	2	.05	.025
Deaths from Tuberculosis (Respiratory). . .	8	.20	.27
Deaths from Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory) .	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough . . . . .	—	—	.025

TABLE No. 3.

## DEATHS FROM SYSTEMIC DISEASES.

	Number	Rate per 1,000 of the Population	Corresponding Rate for 1954
Diseases of the Cardio- Vascular System . .	187	4.6	4.1
Cancer . . . . .	95	2.3	2.0
Diseases of the Respiratory System (Non-Tuber- culous) . . . . .	30	.74	.79
Diseases of the Digestive System. . . . .	17	.4	.34
Diseases of the Genito- Urinary System . .	18	.44	.32
Diseases of the Nervous System. . . . .	79	1.9	2.5

TABLE No. 4.  
INFANTILE DEATHS.

	Under 1 week		1 and under 4 weeks		1 and under 3 months		3 and under 6 months		6 and under 12 months		Total		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Asphyxia . . . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Birth Injuries and Atelectasis and Prematurity . . . . .	4	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	5	3	8
Congenital Malformation . . . . .	1	1	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	3	4	7
Gastro-enteritis . . . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pneumonia and Bronchitis . . . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	3	1	4
Totals . . . . .	5	3	-	2	2	1	2	2	4	-	13	8	21

TABLE No. 5.  
MATERNAL DEATHS.

	1954	1955
Puerperal Sepsis . . . . .	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes . . . . .	—	—
Total	—	—

TABLE No. 6.  
MORTALITY AT THE DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS.

	1954			1955		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Under 1 year . . . . .	13	7	20	13	8	21
1 and under 5 years . . . . .	4	—	4	3	3	6
5 and under 10 years . . . . .	1	1	2	1	—	1
10 and under 15 years . . . . .	—	1	1	—	—	—
15 and under 25 years . . . . .	5	—	5	3	1	4
25 and under 35 years . . . . .	2	4	6	5	2	7
35 and under 45 years . . . . .	6	5	11	9	7	16
45 and under 55 years . . . . .	25	23	48	31	14	45
55 and under 65 years . . . . .	51	22	73	51	39	90
65 and under 75 years . . . . .	64	59	123	58	54	112
75 and under 85 years . . . . .	52	89	141	63	78	141
85 years and over . . . . .	18	31	49	20	35	55
Totals . . . . .	241	242	483	257	241	498

TABLE No. 7.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

AGE INCIDENCE OF CONFIRMED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1955.

	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total	Cases re- moved to Hospital	Cases not removed to Hospital
Dysentery . . . . .	—	2	2	1	—	2	1	—	8	2	6
Pneumonia, Acute . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Primary . . . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	3
Polio-myelitis . . . . .	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	4	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	2	—
Scarlet Fever . . . . .	—	20	22	1	—	—	—	—	43	14	29
Tuberculosis, . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory . . . . .	—	1	1	8	4	3	6	2	25	6	19
Tuberculosis, . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory . . . . .	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	5	4	1
Whooping Cough . . . . .	2	8	4	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	14
Totals . . . . .	2	32	33	12	5	6	11	3	104	32	72

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES: MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF CONFIRMED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1955.

	Dysentery	Pneumonia, Acute Primary	Poliomylitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, Non- Respiratory	Whooping Cough	Total
January . . . . .	—	—	—	2	7	1	—	6	16
February . . . . .	4	—	—	—	7	3	1	4	19
March . . . . .	3	—	—	—	5	4	—	2	14
April . . . . .	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	—	8
May . . . . .	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	6
June . . . . .	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	2	9
July . . . . .	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	4
August . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
September . . . . .	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	4
October . . . . .	—	—	3	—	3	2	2	—	10
November . . . . .	—	2	—	—	7	1	—	—	10
December . . . . .	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Totals . . . . .	8	3	4	2	43	25	5	14	104

TABLE No. 9.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

	Entrants	9 year olds	13 year olds	16 year olds	Other age groups	Vision Examinations	Specials	Re-examinations	Employed Children	TOTAL
January .	8	6	68	1	13	6	9	41	26	178
February .	3	—	295	54	14	39	50	20	55	530
March .	32	230	1	—	18	91	72	—	138	582
April .	15	3	17	4	13	1	21	33	14	121
May .	169	7	—	—	7	10	51	140	—	384
June .	4	1	4	—	8	3	39	407	—	466
July .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September .	160	128	—	—	—	162	59	—	—	509
October .	215	—	—	—	—	266	96	8	—	585
November .	83	24	118	—	—	—	21	—	—	306
December .	—	92	96	105	8	—	19	—	—	320
Totals	689	551	599	164	81	578	437	649	233	3981

TABLE No. 10.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

## SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

	No. of Sessions conducted at Schools	No. of Special Visits to Schools	No. of Clinic Sessions
January . . .	7	1	4
February . . .	19	1	3
March . . .	23	3	4
April . . .	5	4	2
May . . .	17	8	4
June . . .	14	7	4
July . . .	—	—	—
August . . .	—	—	—
September . . .	18	7	4
October . . .	13	7	4
November . . .	15	5	4
December . . .	14	2	3
Totals	145	45	36

TABLE No. 11

**SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTIONS**  
**CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

	Total No. Examined.	Children with no Defects.		Children with Dirty Heads.		Children with Squints.		Children with Ear, Nose and Throat Conditions		Children with Other Conditions.	
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
Entrants . . . .	689	486	70	16	2	22	3	65	9	116	17
Nine year olds . . .	551	461	84	20	3.6	6	1	20	3.6	137	25
Thirteen year olds . .	599	479	80	15	2.5	7	1	7	1	124	20.6
Sixteen year olds . .	164	139	85	—	—	1	.6	—	—	35	22
Other Age Groups . .	81	56	69	2	2.4	1	1.2	4	4.9	25	31
Totals . . . .	2084	1621	77.75	53	2.5	37	1.75	96	4.6	437	21



TABLE No. 12.  
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE—VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS.

	No. of Visits paid to the Schools.	No. of Children examined for the first time during the month.	No. of Children re-examined during the month.	No. of Children examined as infectious disease contacts.	No. of visits paid to children's homes during month.
January	53	2411	236	—	12
February	48	889	604	—	5
March	50	567	823	—	1
April	26	1275	105	—	2
May	44	1950	569	—	5
June	47	1165	658	62	10
July	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—
September	50	2971	533	—	9
October	49	2202	987	—	4
November	51	1343	1201	—	2
December	27	179	1101	—	3
Totals	445	14,952	6817	62	53

TABLE No 13.  
VACCINATIONS.

	Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th Day	Accelerated (Vaccinoid) Re-action, 5th-7th Day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd Day	No local Re-action	TOTAL
No. Vaccinated at Child Welfare Centres . . . .	243	—	1	3	247
No. Vaccinated by General Practitioners . . . .	328	1	—	18	347
Totals	571	1	1	21	594

TABLE No 14.  
RE-VACCINATIONS.

	Typical Vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th Day	Accelerated (Vaccinoid) Re-action, 5th-7th Day	Re-action greatest at 2nd-3rd Day	No local Re-action	TOTAL
No. Re-vaccinated at Child Welfare Centres . . . .	2	1	—	—	3
No. Re-vaccinated by General Practitioners . . . .	44	12	19	17	92
Totals	46	13	19	17	95

Year of Birth	Immunised at Child Welfare Centres		Immunised by General Practitioners		Refused	Died	Removed to other Areas	TOTAL
	Diphtheria	Combined Diphtheria and Whoop. Cough	Diphtheria	Combined Diphtheria and Whoop. Cough				
1949 or earlier	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	7
1950 .	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
1951 .	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	4
1952 .	5	5	6	6	2	—	—	24
1953 .	19	4	27	28	1	1	2	82
1954 .	102	120	58	174	3	2	11	470
1955 .	—	121	—	74	2	6	22	225
Totals .	131	251	94	286	8	9	35	814

TABLE No. 16.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS—MAINTENANCE INOCULATIONS.

	YEAR OF BIRTH							TOTAL
	1944 or earlier	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
No. Immunised at Child Welfare Centres .	—	—	—	—	—	4	180	13
No. Immunised by General Practitioners .	2	—	—	—	3	7	129	1
No. Immunised by School Medical Officers .	33	17	7	5	6	34	222	—
Totals .	35	17	7	5	9	45	531	14

TABLE No. 17.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

Year	Total No. Immunised.
1940	690
1941	1690
1942	488
1943	502
1944	600
1945	588
1946	478
1947	658
1948	857
1949	909
1950	897
1951	764
1952	623
1953	648
1954	690
1955	762

TABLE No. 18.

## WHOOPIING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

	YEAR OF BIRTH							Total
	1949 or earlier	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	
No. of children immunised with whooping cough vaccine at Child Welfare Centres	—	—	1	7	6	46	1	61
No. of Children immunised with combined whooping cough and diphtheria antigen	2	1	2	11	32	294	195	537
Totals	2	1	3	18	38	340	196	598

TABLE No. 19.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR IN WHICH DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
RESPIRATORY	Males	—	—	5	1	3	4	2	15
	Females	—	1	3	3	—	2	—	10
	Total	—	1	8	4	3	6	2	25
NON- RESPIRATORY	Males	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
	Females	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3
	Total	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	5
TOTAL RESPIRATORY AND NON- RESPIRATORY	—	1	2	8	5	3	8	3	30

TABLE No. 20.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE AREA AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955, WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		Number of cases in Age Groups								
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
RESPIRATORY	Males	—	1	20	42	57	39	48	9	216
	Females	—	1	19	62	60	29	12	1	184
	Total	—	2	39	104	117	68	60	10	400
NON- RESPIRATORY	Males	—	—	15	12	4	—	5	2	38
	Females	—	—	10	10	6	7	4	3	40
	Total	—	—	25	22	10	7	9	5	78
TOTAL RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY		—	2	64	126	127	75	69	15	478

TABLE No. 21.

METHODS BY WHICH NEW PATIENTS WERE DISCOVERED TO BE  
SUFFERING FROM RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1955.

Sympton Group Examination (M.M.R. or other)	17
Contact Group Examination (M.M.R. or other)	—
Mass Miniature Radiography (General public, including office and other staffs)	8
Routine Examination of Special Groups (M.M.R. or other)	
(a) School staffs	—
(b) National Service Recruits	—
(c) Emigrants	—
TOTAL	25

TABLE No. 22.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO DIED FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE AREA DURING THE YEAR, WITH PARTICULARS AS TO PERIOD ELAPSING BETWEEN NOTIFICATION AND DEATH.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Not notified or notified only at or after death .	—	—	—	—
Notified less than 1 month before death .	1	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death .	1	—	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death .	—	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death .	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death .	—	—	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death .	3	3	—	—
Total . . .	5	3	—	—



TABLE No. 23.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS WHO RECEIVED TREATMENT  
IN SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR.

		In Hospital on January 1st	Admitted during year	Discharged during year	Died in the Institutions	In Hospital on December 31st
Children under 15 years	Males	1	—	1	—	—
	Females	—	1	—	—	1
Persons aged 15-45 years	Males	15	16	16	—	15
	Females	19	13	22	1	9
Persons aged 45 years and over	Males	7	9	7	1	8
	Females	1	4	3	—	2
TOTAL		43	43	49	2	35

TABLE No. 24.

## B.C.G. VACCINATION.

Group	No. Tuberculin Tested		Negative		Re-actors		No. Successfully Vaccinated	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(a) Nurses . . . .	—	58	—	—	16	—	—	16
(b) Medical students . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Contacts . . . .	27	39	21	34	21	34	21	34
Babies . . . .	12	9	12	9	—	—	12	9
(d) Special Groups not included in above								
(i) School leavers . . . .	271	251	217	222	217	222	217	222
(ii) New-born babies . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Others . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	310	357	250	281	250	281	250	281

TABLE No. 25.  
B.C.G. VACCINATION — SCHOOL CHILDREN.

	No. of Forms Issued	Acceptances		Total No. Tested	Children with Positive Reaction		Children with Negative Reaction & Vaccinated	
		No.	Percent-age		No.	Percent-age	No.	Percent-age
<b>Perth High School :</b> Boys (1942's) Girls (1942's)	164	153	93	143	30	21	113	79
	165	157	94.5	134	22	16½	112	83½
<b>Perth Academy :</b> Boys (1942's) Girls (1942's)	123	107	87	98	17	17½	81	82½
	95	91	96	87	18	20.75	69	79.25
<b>St. John's School :</b> Boys (1942's) Girls (1942's)	30	27	90	23	6	26	17	74
	19	15	80	13	2	15.5	11	84.5
<b>Total</b>	596	550	92	498	95	19	403	81
Absentees, etc.	—	—	—	24	8	33½	16	66½
No. re-tested	—	—	—	873	871	99.8	2	.2

TABLE No. 26.

## TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF BIRTHS NOTIFIED DURING EACH MONTH OF 1955.

	Burgh Cases			Other Areas	Total	Still-born	Premature	Illegitimate
	Males	Females	Total					
January . . .	27	22	49	36	85	2	3	3
February . . .	26	22	48	38	86	1	3	3
March . . .	31	22	53	30	83	1	6	1
April . . .	26	19	45	44	89	—	7	1
May . . .	23	25	48	48	96	—	8	3
June . . .	33	29	62	41	103	3	6	1
July . . .	22	24	46	44	90	2	7	1
August . . .	21	38	59	38	97	2	4	4
September . . .	29	23	52	38	90	3	6	1
October . . .	27	22	49	36	85	1	4	—
November . . .	42	24	66	46	112	1	2	2
December . . .	19	22	41	44	85	1	7	—
Totals . . .	326	292	618	483	1101	17	74	20

TABLE No. 27.

## BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.

	Midwife only present at Confinement	Doctor only present at Confinement	Both Doctor and Midwife present at Confinement	Baby born before arrival of Doctor or Midwife	Total
January . . . . .	38	—	47	—	85
February . . . . .	53	—	33	—	86
March . . . . .	48	—	33	2	83
April . . . . .	47	2	40	—	89
May . . . . .	60	3	33	—	96
June . . . . .	68	1	34	—	103
July . . . . .	54	—	36	—	90
August . . . . .	64	—	33	—	97
September . . . . .	57	1	31	1	90
October . . . . .	60	1	24	—	85
November . . . . .	74	—	38	—	112
December . . . . .	58	—	27	—	85
Totals . . . . .	681	8	409	3	1101

TABLE No. 28.

**BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.**

	Domiciliary	No. of Births occurring in Perth Royal Infirmary	No. of Births in Private Nursing Homes	Total
January . . .	14	64	7	85
February . . .	20	54	12	86
March . . .	20	57	6	83
April . . .	11	61	17	89
May . . .	15	74	7	96
June . . .	19	78	6	103
July . . .	16	68	6	90
August . . .	15	72	10	97
September . .	16	70	4	90
October . . .	16	63	6	85
November . .	16	89	7	112
December . .	14	62	9	85
Totals .	192	812	97	1101



TABLE No. 29.  
**BIRTH NOTIFICATIONS.**

Total No. of Births, including still births, notified during the year . . . . .	1101
(i) Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947 . . . . .	
(a) Doctor engaged and present at confinement . . . . .	51
(b) Doctor engaged but not present at confinement . . . . .	139
(c) Midwife alone (no doctor engaged) . . . . .	—
(ii) Other domiciliary cases. . . . .	
(a) Doctor engaged . . . . .	2
(b) Midwife alone (no doctor engaged) . . . . .	—
(c) Conducted by outdoor staff of an institution . . . . .	—
(d) Without doctor or midwife . . . . .	—
(iii) Cases conducted at institutions (including private maternity and nursing homes) in the area of the Local Health Authority . . . . .	909

TABLE No. 30.

## DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

	Whole-time Midwives	Part-time Midwives	Total
No. of applications received during the year	179	54	233
No. of Domiciliary Births during the year.			
Midwife only present at Confinement	103	34	137
Doctor only present at Confinement	1	—	1
Both Doctor and Midwife present at confinement . . . . .	35	15	50
Neither a doctor nor a midwife present at the confinement . . . .	2	—	2
Totals . . . . .	141	49	190
No. who had been booked for domiciliary confinement but on account of abnor- malities or unsuitable housing accom- modation were sent to and confined in Hospital.	14	5	19

TABLE No. 31.

## MATERNITY SERVICES SCHEME.

## PARTICULARS OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE MIDWIVES EMPLOYED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

	Ante-Natal Visits.			No. of Births conducted alone	No. of Births conducted with doctors	No. of Puerperal Visits	Other Visits	Total
	Initial Visits	Revisits	Total					
January	14	147	161	6	8	298	-	473
February	19	131	150	13	7	317	-	487
March	22	132	154	16	4	314	-	488
April	25	103	128	6	4	216	-	354
May	9	156	165	8	7	247	-	427
June	16	164	180	12	7	355	-	554
July	15	142	157	14	2	206	-	379
August	17	147	164	14	1	258	1	438
September	22	156	178	13	2	220	-	413
October	19	119	138	14	2	223	-	377
November	18	173	191	12	4	266	1	474
December	21	201	222	11	3	249	-	485
Totals	217	1771	1988	139	51	3169	2	5349

TABLE No. 32.

## MATERNITY DEPARTMENT—PERTH ROYAL INFIRMARY.

No. of Births occurring in the Maternity Department		Total No. of Attendances at the Ante-natal Clinic		No. of Persons attending the Ante-natal Clinic	
Perth City	Perth & Fife Counties	Perth City	Perth & Fife Counties	Perth City	Perth & Fife Counties
372	440	4199	2643	483	523
Total		Total		Total	
812		6842		1006	

TABLE No. 33.  
THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

	Initial Visits	Total No. of Visits	Total No. Visited
Children under 1 year . . .	652	2708	680
Children 1 to 5 years . . .	299	3687	2423
Expectant Mothers . . .	290	313	290
Tuberculosis Cases . . .	39	1522	495
Aged Persons . . .	235	287	235
Persons receiving Home Help . . .	102	476	172
Visits on behalf of Almoner . . .	17	21	21
Visits on behalf of General Practitioners . . .	3	32	26
Others . . .	18	162	18
Totals . . .	1655	9208	4360

TABLE No. 34.

## CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

	No. of Children attending for first time during the year			Total No. of Children attending during the year		
	Under 1	Over 1	Total	Under 1	Over 1	Total
South Street . . .	367	27	394	367	632	999
Muirton . . .	125	21	146	125	138	263
Totals . . .	492	48	540	492	770	1262

	Number of Attendances at Clinics					Total
	Consultation Clinic	Toddlers Clinic	Seen by Nurses	Under 1	Over 1	
South Street . . .	2343	282	4494	3958	750	7119
Muirton . . .	833	—	2587	1589	430	3420
Totals . . .	3176	282	7081	5547	1180	10539

TABLE No. 35.  
ULTRA-VIOLET RAY CLINICS.

	First Attendances	Number Attending	Total Attendances
South Street Clinic . .	22	66	572
Muirton Clinic . .	—	—	—
Totals . .	22	66	572

TABLE No. 36.  
DAY NURSERIES.

	No. of places provided at end of year		No. of places taken up at end of the year		Average daily attendance		Total attendances
	Under 2	Aged 2-5	Under 2	Aged 2-5	Under 2	Aged 2-5	
Florence Place	27	28	19	28	17.5	22.5	11,062
Westbank* .	—	—	—	—	11	—	1,752

\* Westbank Nursery closed on 16th July, 1955.

TABLE No. 37.  
HOME HELP SCHEME.

	No. of cases who received assistance.
Maternity Cases	17
Cases of Illness	41
Aged Persons	102
Tuberculosis Cases	9
Blind Persons	3
TOTAL	172

	Whole-Time	Part-Time
No. of Home Helps employed at the end of the year	17	8
Total No. of hours worked by Home Helps during the year.	31,474	

TABLE No. 38.

## HOME NURSING SERVICE.

	No. of Persons Visited			No. of Visits Paid		
	Medical	Surgical	Tubercu- losis	Medical	Surgical	Tubercu- losis.
						TOTAL
Pre-school Children	42	11	—	166	93	—
School Children	35	7	1	188	51	110
Persons aged 16-15 years	297	69	27	2858	666	967
Aged persons	377	37	—	10071	1055	—
TOTALS	751	124	28	13283	1865	1077
						16225



TABLE No. 39.  
**VENEREAL DISEASES.**  
**NEW CASES.**

PERTH CITY CASES	Syphilis			Gonorrhoea	Venereal conditions other than Syphilis and Gonorrhoea	Total Venereal	Non-Venereal
	Acquired	Congenital	Total				
Attending the Perth Clinic . . . . .	6	—	6	12	16	34	8
Attending the Dundee Clinic . . . . .	—	—	—	2	—	2	4
	6	—	6	14	16	36	12

# Report by the Sanitary Inspector

Sanitary Department,  
22 York Place,  
Perth.

15th June, 1956

To the 'Department of Health for Scotland, and the Lord Provost, Magistrates  
and Council of the City of Perth.

My Lord Provost, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eleventh Annual Report on the work  
of the Sanitary Department of the City of Perth for the year 1955.

## PREFACE.

My first Annual Report was for the year 1945 and contained a summary  
covering the period from 1939—the war years.

It is proposed in this report to include a similar summary covering  
the period from 1946 to the end of 1955—the post war years.

One of my main reasons for this is that it is sometimes difficult to  
see very clearly any substantial progress in environmental sanitation in  
the course of only one year but when the situation is reviewed after a  
decade of endeavour then the rate of progress and end results may be  
more adequately assessed.

It trust that a study of this report will show that our efforts during  
the post-war years have met with some success and that these have made  
some contribution towards making this Fair City worthier of its well-known  
title and a more pleasant and healthier place for its citizens of to-day and  
those who will follow in the decades that are yet to come.

## HOUSING.

In connection with the Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act,  
1954, Part I, a preliminary survey of the City has been carried out and  
the official statement of the Local Authority's proposals required under  
Section I of the Act has been submitted to the Secretary of State and  
approved by him as follows:—

# HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1950, PARTS II AND III. HOUSING (REPAIRS AND RENTS) (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1954 SECTION I.

Statement of Local Authority's proposals required under Section I of the 1954 Act.

Name of Local Authority—**BURGH OF PERTH.**

Total number of permanent dwellings in the area of the Local Authority—12,434.

## PART I

*The total problem in the area of the Local Authority, covering a period of 20 years.*

1. The estimated number of unfit houses, excluding temporary houses (either individual unfit houses suitable for action under Part II of the 1950 Act, or unfit houses which ought to be included in Clearance Areas and dealt with under Part III), classified as follows:—

- (a) Houses which should be demolished (houses which neither the owner nor the local authority can make fit at reasonable expense and which the local authority do not consider they should make more habitable under Part I of the 1954 Act) . . . . . 125
- (b) Houses which the owners cannot be expected to make fit at an expense reasonable to themselves but which the local authority consider could be acquired and made more habitable or fully fit under Part I of the 1954 Act (if desirable they could be modernised under Part VII of the 1950 Act with Improvement Grants) . . . . . 40
- (c) Houses in Clearance Areas already belonging to local authorities and retained under Section 2 of the Act, pending demolition . . . . . N
- (d) Houses which owners might be expected to make fit at an expense reasonable to themselves, either because of a notice served under Section 7 of the 1950 Act or because they might wish to qualify for a "repairs increase" under Part II of the 1954 Act . . . . . 20

2. The estimated number of new houses required in order to facilitate the rehousing of:—

- (a) Occupants of houses that are to be demolished or closed (as in I (a) above) . . . . . 90
- (b) Any persons whom the authority will remove because of serious overcrowding from other unfit houses to which works are carried out (houses in categories I (b), (c) and (d) above) . . . . . 40

3. The number of years which the local authority estimate will be necessary to deal with unfit houses under the procedure at I (a), (b) and (c) above . . . . . 2

## PART II

*Statement of Programme for the three years.*

4. Number of unfit houses in Clearance Areas already covered by operative Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders, or owned by the local authority which are to be dealt with within the three years, either by demolition or by retention under Section 2 of the Act . . . . . 6

5. Number of unfit houses to be included in Clearance Areas and (so far as not already belonging to the local authority) to be dealt with by agreement, within the three years sub-divided into:—

- (a) Houses already covered by resolution under Section 25 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 (including those for which Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders have been submitted to the Secretary of State but have not yet been confirmed) . . . . . 5

(b) Houses not yet so covered	52
6. Number of unfit houses in Clearance Areas (under 4 and 5) which are to be demolished in three years	150
7. Number of individual unfit houses which are to be the subject of Demolition or Closing Order Procedure in the three years under Section 9 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 (including houses under existing Demolition or Closing Orders which have not been enforced)	200
8. Number of unfit houses under 4 and 5 to be dealt with in the three years under section 2 of the Housing (Repairs and Kents) (Scotland) Act, 1954 (houses retained for temporary occupation in Clearance Areas)	Nil
9. Number of new houses required during the period in order to facilitate rehousing as a result of action under 6, 7 and 8 above (including houses required for abating serious overcrowding in unfit houses which are to have works carried out on them)	350

## **Clearance Areas.**

### **MEAL VENNEL.**

At the end of the year there were only 3 tenants still in occupation of houses in the area and the demolition of most of the properties had been completed. The redevelopment of this area is to be the subject of an open architectural competition, the result of which will be awaited with keen interest.

### **CLAYHOLES.**

All the properties in this area have now been acquired by the Town Council and those in Clayholes itself have already been demolished. At the end of the year there were only three houses in High Street still occupied.

It is proposed to use this site as a car park.

### **POMARIUM STREET.**

At the end of the year most of the properties in the Pomarium Street Clearance Areas had been acquired by the Town Council. The results of these negotiations for acquisition of these properties to date must be considered as very satisfactory.

#### **Pomarium Street East Side No. 2 Clearance Area.**

The 15 tenants of the occupied houses in this Area were all rehoused during the year and the three contiguous tenements 81-83, 85-87 and 89-95 Pomarium Street containing the total of 23 houses were demolished.

Work has already commenced on the erection of a block of four storey flats on the area of this site and adjoining ground in Cross Street. This will consist of 19 houses of 2 apartments and 13 of 3 apartments, a total of 32 houses.

#### **Pomarium Street East Side No. 1 Clearance Area.**

At the end of the year 7 tenants had been rehoused from this area and it is hoped to have the remaining tenants removed within the next few months.







That's Clayholes, that was.









The old site with a new look.

## INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

During the year undertakings were received from owners not to relet the following houses which were unfit for human habitation.

Property	No. of Houses	Order
18 Barrack Street	2	Undertaking
22 Barrack Street	1	"
10 Craigie Place	1	Corporation Property
12 Craigie Place	3	" "
14 Craigie Place	1	" "
41 Cross Street	1	Undertaking
43 Cross Street	3	"
8 Edinburgh Road	1	"
21 Fleshers Vennel	2	"
18 George Street	1	"
70 High Street	1	"
186 High Street	1	Corporation Property
231 High Street	2	Undertaking
335 High Street	4	"
25 Hospital Street	1	Requisitioned Property by P.T.C.
22 James Street	1	Undertaking
29 King Street	1	"
1 Leonard Place	1	"
37 Leonard Street	1	Corporation Property
41 Main Street	1	Undertaking
8 Market Street	1	"
12 New Row	1	"
30 New Row	1	"
33 New Row	1	"
13 North Port	1	"
Roundhay, Dorrans Works	1	"
2 St. Annes Lane	2	"
8 St. Annes Lane	4	"
3 St. Paul's Square	1	"
104 South Street	1	"
163 South Street	2	"
61 Strathmore Street	1	"
20 Thimble-row	1	"
17 Watergate	1	"
18 Watergate	5	"
35 Watergate	1	"
36 West Mill Street	1	"
60 West Mill Street	1	"
Total	57	

Voluntary Undertakings were obtained in respect of 57 houses. 37 of these houses were vacated during the year. In the other 20 cases the tenants have still to be rehoused but only 6 of these are on the Local Authority's approved list. 13 tenants were rehoused from houses for which Voluntary Undertakings were obtained during 1954 and the houses closed. 2 tenants were rehoused from houses for which Voluntary Undertakings were obtained during 1953 and the houses closed. 1 tenant was rehoused from a house for which a Voluntary Undertaking was obtained during 1952 and the house closed. A total of 53 individual unfit houses were actually closed during the year.

## Demolition.

The following properties which consisted of unfit houses were demolished during the year:—

51 - 55	Meal Vennel	.	.	.	8	houses
57 - 59	Meal Vennel	.	.	.	6	"
61	Meal Vennel and 119 South St.	.	.	.	6	"
28 - 30	Meal Vennel	.	.	.	1	house
32 - 36	Meal Vennel	.	.	.	8	houses
48 - 52	Meal Vennel	.	.	.	8	"
54 - 58	Meal Vennel	.	.	.	6	"
123 - 127	South Street	.	.	.	6	"
81 - 87	Pomarium Street	.	.	.	16	"
89 - 95	Pomarium Street	.	.	.	7	"
61 - 63	Main Street	.	.	.	3	"
8 - 16	Craigie Place	.	.	.	12	"
2 - 6	Cow Vennel	.	.	.	7	"
13 - 15	Horners Lane	.	.	.	2	"
	Clayholes	.	.	.	14	"

Total . 110

The following summary shows the total number of unfit houses for which undertakings were received since 1945.

Year	Number	
1945 . . . . .	2	houses
1948 . . . . .	22	"
1949 . . . . .	39	"
1950 . . . . .	48	"
1951 . . . . .	44	"
1952 . . . . .	46	"
1953 . . . . .	47	"
1954 . . . . .	71	"
1955 . . . . .	57	"

Total . 376

The following summary shows the total number of unfit houses which have been demolished since 1950.

Year	Number	
1950 . . . . .	33	houses
1951 . . . . .	12	"
1952 . . . . .	10	"
1953 . . . . .	8	"
1954 . . . . .	56	"
1955 . . . . .	110	"

Total . 229

## 42-52 Barossa Street.

This property consisting of 8 houses was acquired by the Town Council and it is proposed to carry out certain repairs to this property so that the houses may be used for the rehousing of single persons or elderly couples from other houses in Clearance Areas.

## **8 Caledonian Road.**

This property was in a dangerous condition due to subsidence and the 8 houses were also acquired by the Town Council. Steps have already been taken to put the property into a safe condition and these houses will also be used to accommodate suitable tenants from houses in Clearance Areas.

## **Tulloch Terrace.**

The Town Council have proposed to modernise 48 houses owned by them at Tulloch Terrace by the provision of a bathroom, kitchenette, hot water supply and ventilated larder in each house. At the end of the year, work on 4 houses had been completed and the tenants of these houses who had been accommodated in temporary houses whilst the work was proceeding are now in reoccupation of the modernised houses.

It will thus be evident that the Town Council is taking all possible steps to carry out their proposals for dealing under Part I of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 with houses within their district which appear to the local authority to be unfit for human habitation.

## **HOUSING (REPAIRS AND RENTS) (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1954—PART II.**

Since 30th August, 1954, the date of the commencement of the Act to 31st December, 1955, there have been 24 applications for certificates of disrepair under Section 18(1) of the Act and the Local Authority have granted 22 certificates and refused 2.

Appeals were made to the Sheriff by the landlord against two certificates which were granted.

After a two day hearing of the case, the Sheriff upheld the certificates and dismissed the appeals. Sheriff-Substitute A. M. Prain commented that in deciding that the appeals must fail he reached his decision with some regret, for the circumstances seemed to combine to defeat rather than to forward the beneficent intention of the legislation. The interests of landlord and tenant were really the same and if they combined together the Act could work greatly to the benefit of both. If, however, they adopted opposing attitudes the Act might not be able to achieve its purpose, and houses would continue to decay, to the loss of both.

One must agree that these comments of the Sheriff are very wise and only too true.

Reviewing the local position and the effect of this part of the Act since it came into operation we find that out of a total of 12,825 inhabited houses in the City, 4,732 are owned by the Corporation (4,542 in housing schemes and 190 elsewhere). Some 2,500 houses are owner-occupied and 200 are owned by the Perth Housing Association, Ltd.

This gives a total of 7,432 houses now outwith rent control out of a total of 12,825 or approximately 58 per cent. leaving only 5,393 or 42 per cent. under control.

The Burgh Assessor reports that at December, 1955, there were 29 houses in the City, the rents of which had been increased under the Act.

We now have the position that out of a total of 5,393 controlled houses the rents of 29 houses have been increased under the Act, or 0.5 per cent. 22 certificates of disrepair still apply to controlled houses compared with 29 controlled houses where the rents have actually been the subject of increase. The main effect of the Act locally has been to put the 200 houses owned by the Perth Housing Association Ltd. out of rent control and these rents have been increased by approximately 33½ per cent. with the approval of the Town Council.

It is quite evident that the Act offers no attraction for the vast majority of house owners.

Since the commencement of the Act almost as many controlled houses in Perth City have been made liable to reduction of rent to the 1914 level by the issue of certificates of disrepair as those where rents have been increased, excluding those owned by the Perth Housing Association Ltd. and now outwith control.

From the administrative point of view this part of the Act is most unsatisfactory and full of problems, some of which can only be solved by court proceedings. Even then the decision of the Sheriff may be reached only "with some regret" and none of the interested parties may be entirely satisfied at the end of the day.

I have come to the conclusion that so far as this part of the Act is concerned, it has failed in its purpose "to make further provision as respects Scotland for securing or promoting the re-conditioning and maintenance of houses."

What was intended to be "Operation Rescue" has in fact turned out to be "Operation Abandon."

### **Provision of New Houses.**

During the year 1955 new houses were provided as follows:—

#### **Houses erected by Private Enterprise:—**

3 apts.	.	.	8 houses
4 apts.	.	.	17 "
5 apts.	.	.	2 "
6 apts.	.	.	2 "
Total			29 "

#### **Private Houses under construction at end of 1955:—**

3 apts.	.	.	2 houses
4 apts.	.	.	18 "
5 apts.	.	.	6 "
6 apts.	.	.	2 "
Total			28 "

#### **Corporation Houses completed during 1955:—**

*Letham Housing Development.*

Urban Housing Development.				
Traditional :	2 apts.	.	.	34 houses
	3 apts.	.	.	110 "
	4 apts.	.	.	2 "
				<hr/>
	Total			146 "

Corporation Houses under construction at end of 1955:—

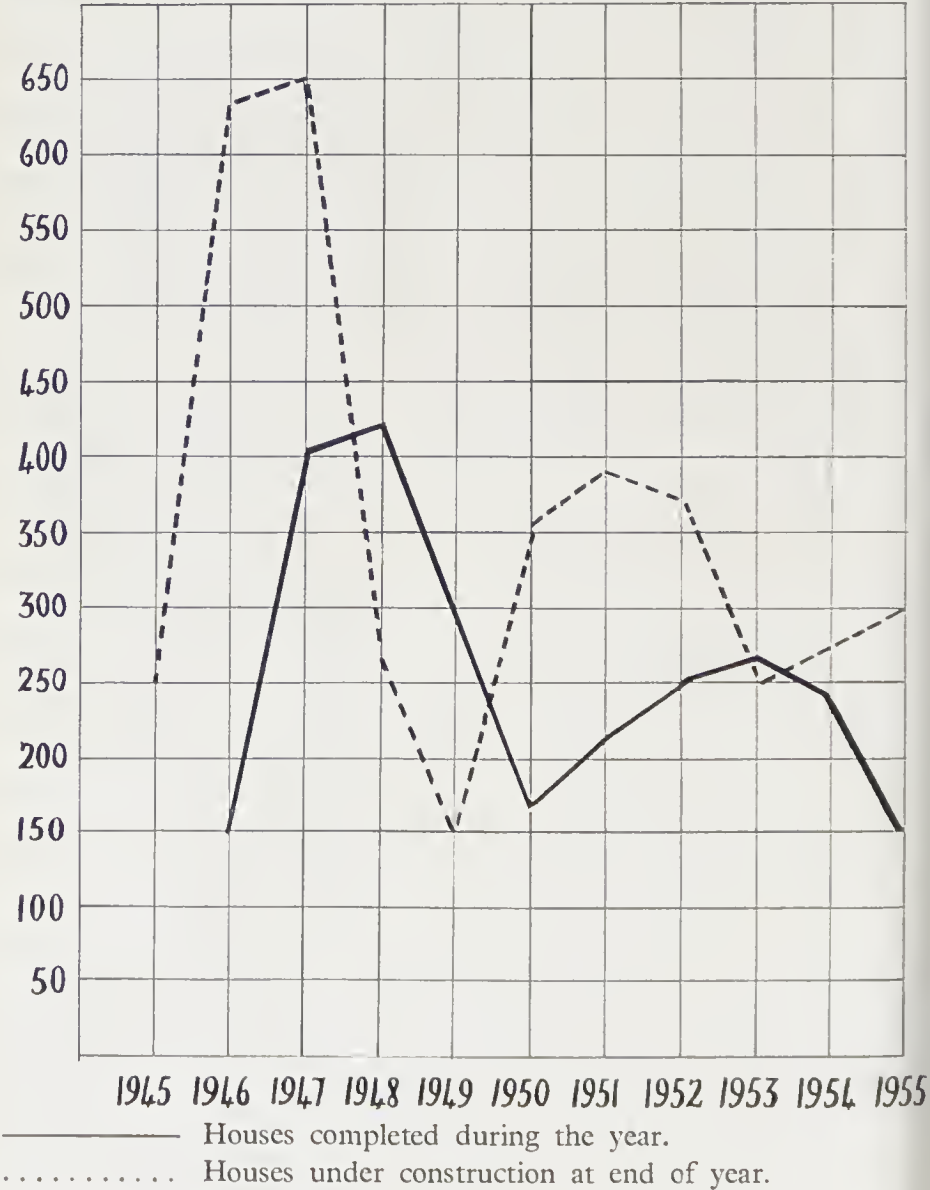
*Letham Housing Development.*

Traditional:	2 apts.	.	.	108 houses
	3 apts.	.	.	164 "
	Total			272

*Moncreiffe Housing Estate.*

Traditional:	3 apts	.	.	20 houses
	Total			292

The position regarding the provision of Corporation houses might be illustrated graphically thus:—





The following table shows the number of new houses provided in the City since 1945.

### Provision of New Houses

Year	Private Enterprise Houses		Corporation Houses	
	Completed	Under Construction	Completed	Under Construction
1945	—	—	—	244
1946	4	15	150	630
1947	10	9	402	646
1948	8	10	411	274
1949	17	3	278	148
1950	12	10	158	354
1951	11	32	214	388
1952	45	24	252	372
1953	20	19	254	246
1954	28	14	242	262
1955	29	28	146	292
Totals	184	164	2507	3856



The number of Corporation houses completed during the year was 146, the lowest number in the last ten years and 104 short of the average of 250 during that period.

This can only be regarded as most disappointing. In view of our commitments in connection with slum clearance we can only hope that much better results will be forthcoming during the next few years.

**Housing Improvement Grants.** During the year 12 applications by owners for Improvement Grants under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 were approved by the Town Council and 2 applications were refused. These figures are exactly the same as those for 1954.

It would appear that the conditions laid down in connection with the making of such grants are not sufficiently attractive to owners considering the carrying out of modernisation and improvement of their houses.

**Points System.** Three hundred and thirty-eight visits of inspection were made in connection with unfitness points, and the results notified to the City Factor along with awards of medical points by the Medical Officer of Health in health cases.

**Disinfestation of Bug-Infested Furniture and Bedding.** Four hundred and twenty-two houses were examined for the presence of bed bugs prior to the removal of tenants to Corporation houses. In ten cases evidence of bed bugs was found and arrangements were made for the disinfestation of the furniture by cyanide gas and the bedding by steam, before delivery of the furniture and bedding to the Corporation house.

**Overcrowding.** During the past year out of a total allocation of 328 houses, 147 overcrowding cases were rehoused, 58 being tenants of houses and 89 occupying sublet rooms. This represents 44 per cent of the allocations.

## GENERAL SANITATION.

Three hundred and forty-eight nuisances were discovered or complained of, and 30 intimations under Section 19 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served.

Seven hundred and seventy visits of inspection and enquiry were made.

The following are the particulars of the nuisances dealt with:—

Choked or Defective Drains . . . . .	29
Choked or Defective Traps . . . . .	15
Choked or Defective Gullies . . . . .	6
Choked or Defective Rhones . . . . .	6
Burst Pipes . . . . .	4
Frozen Pipes . . . . .	1
Defective Rain Water Pipes . . . . .	8
Defective Sink Waste Pipes . . . . .	9
Missing Sink Waste-Trap Cover . . . . .	1
Defective Sink . . . . .	1
Missing Manhole Cover . . . . .	1
Flooding of Cellars . . . . .	6
Dampness in Houses . . . . .	29
Defective Vents and Firegrates . . . . .	7

Defective Roofs . . . . .	19
Defective Floors and Woodwork . . . . .	9
Defective Ceilings and Wall Plaster . . . . .	7
Defective W.C.'s . . . . .	7
Defective Pulleys . . . . .	2
Dangerous Stairs . . . . .	2
Dangerous Building . . . . .	1
Dirty Houses . . . . .	3
Verminous Houses . . . . .	6
Lack of Facilities for Drying Clothes . . . . .	1
Dust Nuisances . . . . .	2
Dangerous Lintel . . . . .	1
Dirty Area . . . . .	1
Depositing of Filth . . . . .	1
Domestic Animal Nuisances . . . . .	7
Insect Nuisances . . . . .	45
Offensive Smells . . . . .	28
Nuisance from Refuse Bins . . . . .	3
Pigeon Nuisances . . . . .	7
Accumulations . . . . .	31
Smoke Nuisances . . . . .	26
Failing to Clean Passages, Stairs and W.C. Apartments . . . . .	10
Miscellaneous . . . . .	6
Total	348

The following table gives figures in connection with nuisances dealt with during each year from 1945. It may be noted that the number of intimations and statutory notices which have required to be served has decreased considerably during the past six years, in fact it was not found necessary last year to issue any statutory notices under Section 20 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897. This is a very satisfactory position since it shows that owners and factors of property are giving their co-operation in having necessary work carried out for the abatement of nuisances on intimation of this being made to them without the recourse to the service of statutory notices.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Nuisances</i>	<i>No. of Intimations</i>	<i>Statutory Notices</i>	<i>Visits</i>
1945	675	192	30	1,860
1946	527	159	23	1,494
1947	534	126	23	1,308
1948	490	107	12	1,257
1949	502	87	13	1,305
1950	383	45	4	1,049
1951	319	48	3	697
1952	278	29	2	581
1953	281	74	2	608
1954	292	55	2	749
1955	348	30	—	770
Total	4,629	952	114	11,678

### SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

During the year the following improvements in the sanitary accommodation of houses were carried out:—

118 Charlotte Street: Bathroom and kitchenette provided.

64 Scott Street : Bathroom, ventilated larder and kitchenette provided.  
 23 Glover Street : Bathroom, ventilated larder and kitchenette provided.  
 26 Muirton Place : W.C. and wash-hand basin provided.  
 Bowerswell Cottage : Bathroom and kitchenette provided.  
 I Oakbank Terrace : Bathroom and kitchenette provided.  
 61 George Street : Bathroom provided.  
 12 Marshalls Buildings, King Edward Street : Kitchenette provided.  
 37 Friar Street : W.C. apartment provided.  
 11 Ballantine Place : Bathroom, kitchenette and ventilated larder provided.  
 42 George Street : Bathrooms, ventilated larders and kitchenette provided in two houses.  
 2 Union Street Lane : Bathroom provided.  
 21 Union Street : Kitchenette and W.C. apartment provided.  
 4 Inchaffray Street : Bathroom and separate W.C. apartment provided.  
 15 High Street : Bathroom provided.  
 East Mayfield, Gannochy Road : Bathroom provided.  
 A total of 13 bathrooms, 10 kitchenettes, 5 ventilated larders and W.C. apartments were provided.

### PAINTING OF COMMON STAIRS AND PASSAGES.

During the year 238 notices were issued under the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, Section 117, in respect of 137 stairs and passages. In 78 cases painting had been completed.

The following table shows the number of staircases painted in the City in each year since 1949.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. Completed</i>
1949	78
1950	50
1951	87
1952	64
1953	43
1954	74
1955	78

Total 474

### CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING.

The refuse is collected three times a week from premises in the centre of the City along with certain other populated areas, including Corporation Housing Schemes, and twice a week from those in the outlying districts.

The refuse is conveyed to the Separation and Destruction Plant at Friarton, where all salvage is removed from it. The remainder is burned and the dust and clinkers taken to Newhouse Quarry.

As regards street sweeping, there are 27 beats in the City with a sweeper on each.

A new 12 cub. yard Diesel Refuse Collecting Vehicle was purchased and is now in use. The last two horses of the Cleansing Department were disposed of.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are five Offensive Trades registered within the City:—

Slaughterhouse . . . . .	1
Tallow Melting Works . . . . .	1
Manure Manufacturers . . . . .	3

These were all conducted in a satisfactory manner and no complaints of nuisance were received.

## SANITARY CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

The undernoted improvements were carried out in City Schools during the year.

**Perth Senior Academy.** Improvements were carried out to the heating system.

**Perth High School.** Additional accommodation was provided.

**Central District.** Extensive improvements were carried out at this school to bring it into line with modern requirements. These included the provision of 9 W.C.'s and 5 wash-hand basins for girls, 5 W.C.'s, 5 wash-hand basins and a drinking fountain for infants. 5 wash-hand basins off the hall were renewed and a janitors' sink provided. 5 W.C.'s and a urinal, 4 wash-hand basins and a drinking fountain were provided for boys, a new cloakroom with 5 wash-hand basins and a cleaners' sink, a new staffroom with 2 wash-hand basins and a W.C. 3 wash-hand basins and a cleaners' sink on the 1st flat and a cleaners' sink on the top flat. Tubular electric heaters were provided at W.C.'s and wash-hand basins. Hot water mixing valves were provided for pupils' wash-hand basins. The results of the modernisation of this school are very satisfactory and the school is now being used to relieve the overcrowding at Northern District.

Internal redecoration was also carried out at Perth Senior Academy, St. John's R.C., Craigie, Kinnoull, St. Ninian's, Friarton Nursery and Southern District.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

It would be complacency on our part to suggest that Perth, not being an over industrialised City, does not suffer unduly from this national problem.

After all 50% of the smoke problem is domestic in origin. We also have in Perth one of the largest locomotive depots in Scotland with its attendant smoke and grit nuisances, and from time to time steam raising or central heating boiler plant do give some cause for complaint.

Following the publication of the Beaver Committee Report, the "Clean Air Bill" had its second Reading in the House of Commons in November and has now proceeded to the Committee Stage where it is hoped some of the weaknesses in the Bill will be eliminated.

The Bill has four main purposes namely:—

- (1) To prohibit the emission of dark smoke from any chimney.
- (2) To prohibit the installation of new furnaces unless they can be operated without the emission of smoke, so far as practicable.



- (3) To empower Local Authorities to declare " smoke control areas " in which the emission of smoke from any chimney will be an offence.
- (4) To provide for the control of grit emission from certain larger furnaces.

During the year observations were made on those chimneys about which complaints were lodged, or which were known to be smoke offenders and 35 boiler houses were visited and the boilermen advised or instructed on various matters.

In addition co-operation has been maintained with the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service and their engineers have visited several establishments in the City to advise on plant improvement or instruct boiler operators on correct firing methods.

The fitting of a " Thermo-Draft Unit " to a school central heating boiler was noted with keen interest and a test was carried out by NIFES engineers. If this unit proves successful, a considerable saving in fuel costs and relatively smokeless combustion will result.

From the class in Boiler House Practice, three school janitors gained the City and Guilds Boiler Operator's Certificate out of the six who went forward for the examination. Due to lack of numbers no new classes have been held this year, but some of the Hospital Board Firemen are taking a course which is organised by NIFES.

It is a pity that more firemen will not avail themselves of these classes with the prospects of gaining an Operator's Certificate at the end of the session, because the majority of smoke nuisances are due to lack of knowledge or inefficiency on the part of the fireman.

In the domestic field, in addition to the approved appliances fitted in the new local authority houses, sales to private persons of such modern domestic fireplaces of the approved types have increased during the last two years. These appliances are made in a variety of types and styles all pleasing to the eye and are more efficient than the older types of grates and ranges, which they are replacing. Unfortunately most of them are burning coal, as with the exception of gas coke, the smokeless fuels are either too high in price or the availability of the fuel is limited.



# FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

## I. Inspections

Premises	Number of			
	Number on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities . . . .	21	4	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority . . . .	250	166	15	—
(3) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	9	1	—
Total . . . .	277	179	16	—

2. Cases in which defects were found .

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1) . . . . .	21	17	2	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient . . . . .	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective . . . . .	19	9	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Total	41	27	2	2	—



At the end of the year there were 250 Mechanical, 6 Building Operations and 21 Non-Mechanical Factories on the register as detailed in the following tables.

## MECHANICAL FACTORIES

Aerated Water Manufacturers . . . . .	3
Agricultural Machinery . . . . .	3
Artificial Manure Manufacturers . . . . .	3
Asphalt Manufacturers . . . . .	1
Bakers . . . . .	19
Bituminous Dressing . . . . .	1
Blacksmith . . . . .	1
Book Binding . . . . .	4
Boat Building . . . . .	1
Boot Repairing . . . . .	5
Beer Brewing . . . . .	1
Brush Making . . . . .	1
Builders . . . . .	2
Building Operations . . . . .	6
Cabinet Makers . . . . .	2
Cycle Repairs . . . . .	4
Cutlery Repairs . . . . .	1
Gas Cylinder Repairs . . . . .	1
Cooked Meats . . . . .	2
Dressmakers . . . . .	4
Dyers and Cleaners . . . . .	2
Electrical Engineers . . . . .	5
Electricity Generators . . . . .	2
Egg Grading . . . . .	1
Engineers . . . . .	6
Flour Millers . . . . .	1
Firewood Cutters . . . . .	1
Fishing Tackle Makers . . . . .	2
Fertiliser Granulating . . . . .	1
Glass Manufacturers and Bevellers . . . . .	4
Gas Works . . . . .	1
Gut Scrapers and Tripe Cleaners . . . . .	1
Gravel and Sand Screeners . . . . .	1
Grain Dressing and Feeding Stuffs . . . . .	1
Ham Curers . . . . .	2
Ice Cream Makers . . . . .	1
Iron Founders . . . . .	1
Ice Makers . . . . .	1
Ironmongery Repairs . . . . .	1
Joiners . . . . .	16
Jewellers . . . . .	5
Jute Spinners . . . . .	1
Laundries . . . . .	10
Linen Weavers . . . . .	1
Locomotive Repairs . . . . .	2
Leather Goods Maker . . . . .	1
Motor Vehicle Engineers and Repairs . . . . .	25
Milk Pasteurisers . . . . .	3
Meal Grinders . . . . .	1
Motor Body Builders . . . . .	3
Masons . . . . .	1

Oat Clippers . . . . .	1
Opticians . . . . .	1
Oatmeal Grinders . . . . .	2
Photographers . . . . .	3
Printers . . . . .	12
Plumbers . . . . .	4
Rag Sorters . . . . .	1
Rat Poison Makers . . . . .	1
Railway Plant Repairs . . . . .	1
Sculptors . . . . .	2
Sawmillers . . . . .	3
Stone Crushers . . . . .	1
Sweet Manufacturers . . . . .	1
Sausage Makers . . . . .	15
Signal Repairing . . . . .	1
Sheet Metal Workers . . . . .	1
Sack Repairing and Sewing . . . . .	2
Saw Repairers . . . . .	1
Scrap Metal . . . . .	1
Tailors . . . . .	5
Tinsmiths . . . . .	1
Tile Slabbing . . . . .	2
Tallow Makers . . . . .	1
Tractor Repairs . . . . .	1
Tyre Repairs and Fitting . . . . .	2
Upholsterers . . . . .	1
Wire Workers . . . . .	1
Whisky Blenders and Bottlers . . . . .	8
Waggon Repairs . . . . .	1
Weighing Machine Repairs . . . . .	1
Waste Paper Balers . . . . .	1
Carpet Weaving . . . . .	1
Shop Fitting Repairs . . . . .	1
Box Making . . . . .	1
Bottle Washing . . . . .	2
Battery Charging and Repairs . . . . .	1
Gas Holder Station . . . . .	1
Ladies' Nightwear Manufacturers . . . . .	1
Total . . . . .	256

## NON-MECHANICAL FACTORIES

Builders . . . . .	1
Bakers . . . . .	3
Cycle Repairer . . . . .	1
Dressmakers . . . . .	5
Golf Club Maker . . . . .	1
Jewellers . . . . .	1
Joiners . . . . .	1
Masons . . . . .	1
Picture Framers . . . . .	1
Painters . . . . .	1
Saddlers . . . . .	1
Tailors . . . . .	1
Tinsmiths . . . . .	1
Upholsterers . . . . .	1
Wireless Repairs . . . . .	1
Total . . . . .	21

## SHOPS ACT, 1950.

In addition to improvements in the sanitary accommodation of license premises referred to later in this report, the following works were carried out on premises during the year:—

**Footwear Shop:** Two shops and houses demolished: New shop premises on three flats; first flat, ladies:—one W.C., one wash-hand basin and intervening ventilated space off salon; second flat; ladies rest room with wash-hand basin and W.C., gents cloakroom with one W.C., one wash-hand basin and intervening ventilated space; ground flat:—cleaners sink

**Tearoom Premises :** Kitchen extended and two W.C.'s and two wash-hand basins provided for staff.

**Draper:** One W.C. and wash-hand basin for males and W.C. and wash-hand basin for females provided.

**General Grocer:** W.C. for males. W.C. for females with intervening ventilated space. Apartments and intervening ventilated space connected to air duct with extractor fan; sink with gas heater provided.

**Gents' Outfitter:** Cloakroom with two W.C.'s and two wash-hand basins provided.

**Ladies' Outfitter:** W.C. and wash-hand basin provided.

### COMMON LODGING-HOUSE.

The Model Lodging-House at 14-36 Skinnergate was inspected regularly. These premises were found to be kept in a very satisfactory condition.

### HOUSES LET-IN-LODGINGS.

In addition to Princes Street Hostel, the undernoted premises were registered as houses let-in-lodgings during the year.

3 Melville Street  
6 Stormont Street  
31 George Street.

These were visited and steps taken to prevent overcrowding of the premises.

### TENTS AND VANS.

The Town Council's caravan site at Cleeve was kept in a very satisfactory condition. The only other site on which caravans were parked for any length of time was at Viewfield Place site. Regular inspection was made to ensure that the terms of the bye-laws were being observed.

### BURIALS.

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Department made arrangements for the burials of bodies of 3 adults and 1 child who had died, or had been found dead in the City, and where no other suitable arrangements for the disposal of the bodies had been made.

### CITY MORTUARY.

The City Mortuary, Speygate, continues to be kept in a satisfactory condition under the control of this Department.

## BURIAL GROUNDS.

The three burial grounds within the Burgh are kept in a satisfactory condition under the supervision of the Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries.

## PIGGERIES.

Regular visits were made to the piggeries within the Burgh and steps were taken to ensure that the terms of the bye-laws were being observed.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Six hundred and five rats and 1,056 mice were destroyed. This includes 93 rats and 149 mice at business premises, 401 rats and 838 mice at dwelling-house property, 23 rats and 69 mice at institutions, and 88 rats destroyed at Friarton Refuse Works and Newhouse Quarry by the trapper employed by the Cleansing Department.

The sum of £37 10s. was recovered as costs of treatment of business premises during the year.

The undernoted table gives particulars of the work carried out under this Act since its commencement in 1950.

Year	Complaints	Visits	Destroyed	
			Rats	Mice
1950	148	500	522	787
1951	188	528	740	679
1952	236	638	1,957	590
1953	370	976	1,190	1,449
1954	341	893	779	979
1955	348	916	605	1,056
Total	1,631	4,451	5,793	5,540

## WATER SUPPLY.

The total quantity of water distributed for the year ending 31st December, 1955, was 1,102,556,000 gallons, or just over 3 million gallons per day. This includes a quantity of 46,329,000 gallons supplied to the County. Of the quantity distributed within the Burgh 323,008,000 gallons were supplied by meter and a quantity estimated at 36,000,000 gallons was supplied unmetered for non-domestic purposes. Thus the quantity used for domestic purposes within the Burgh was 697,219,000 gallons, equivalent to 46.7 gallons per head per day.

## DRAINAGE.

The following new sewers were laid at Letham Housing Development during 1955:—

4th A Development—	9" diameter	—185 lin yds.		
	6"	— 80	"	"
4th B Development—	9"	—1672	"	"
5th Development	24"	— 30	"	"
	15"	—400	"	"
	9"	—390	"	"
	6"	—120	"	"

<i>Balgowan Road—</i>	9"	"	— 85	"	"
	6"	"	— 130	"	"
<i>Cul-de-Sac off Burghmuir Road—</i>	6"	"	— 80	"	"

The following sewers have also been laid:—

<i>Rhynd Road—</i>	9"	"	— 243	"	"
<i>Comely Bank Gardens—</i>	9"	"	— 95	"	"
<i>Mount Tabor Road—</i>	12"	"	— 90	"	"

The following surface water drains were laid at Letham:—

<i>4th A Development—</i>	9"	"	— 130	"	"
	6"	"	— 20	"	"
<i>4th B Development—</i>	12"	"	— 560	"	"
	9"	"	— 685	"	"
<i>5th Development—</i>	30"	"	— 30	"	"
	18"	"	— 235	"	"
	9"	"	— 365	"	"
	6"	"	— 40	"	"

The drains of all new houses and other premises were subjected to the smoke test by the Burgh Surveyor's Department.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE ENQUIRIES.

During the year 61 visits of enquiry were made to houses in which cases of infectious disease had occurred, and particulars of patients and contacts were obtained. Thirty-nine notices were sent to Headmasters of schools regarding exclusion periods of patients and contacts.

**Tuberculosis Disinfections.** Special attention is given to houses from which cases of Tuberculosis have been removed to hospital or where deaths from this disease have taken place.

Forty-two houses and 17 sets of bedding were disinfected and three sets of bedding destroyed.

## FOOD SUPPLY.

**Milk Supply.** All creameries and retail premises were inspected regularly and very little cause for complaint was found, the various Acts, Orders and Regulations being complied with generally.

There are two milk producers on the Register, only one of whom keeps cows for the sale of milk to one of the local creameries. This producer's premises were inspected regularly throughout the year. The other producer only keeps 2 cows for his own use.

As requested by the Department of Health, the following particulars are given.

- (a) The number of retail purveyors of milk . . . . . 5
- (b) The number of producers and wholesale dealers who do not sell milk by retail . . . . . 2



- (c) The approximate average number of cows in registered premises 12  
 (d) The number of dairies exempt from registration . . . —  
 (e) The approximate average number of cows in premises exempt from registration . . . —

All milk sold in the City is sold under special designation.

The following table shows the approximate quantities and percentage of milk sold daily within the City.

	<i>Gallons</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Pasteurised . . .	2,920	72.3%
T.T. (Pasteurised) . .	775	19.2%
Certified . . .	305	7.5%
Tuberculin Tested . .	40	1.0%
	<hr/> 4,040	<hr/> 100.0

**Pasteurisation Plants:**—The three creameries pasteurising milk within the Burgh continued to function efficiently throughout the year. All plants produce both T.T. (Pasteurised) and Pasteurised grades of milk.

The milk trade is virtually a public utility service and most households would be at a loss without their daily milk supply. Such a position nearly arose during the summer, due to the failure of the boiler plant at one of the main creameries. However, while competition is keen between the two large creameries in the town there is also a spirit of comradeship, and for three days all milk was pasteurised at the one creamery until the steam boiler was repaired.

At one creamery a new bottle washing machine was installed to deal primarily with school milk supplies. Formerly these bottles had to be washed and then carried in crates to the bottle filling plant, but as a result of the installation of the new washer, the school bottle filling plant has been re-sited and there is now a continuous flow of bottles from the washer to the filling machine.

Furthermore should any breakdown now occur on the main washing and filling plant, there is now this smaller plant as a standby.

At another Creamery a new case washing machine was installed, formerly all case washing at this creamery was done by hand. At this same creamery the packaging of Fresh Butter, which was commenced the previous year, continued, and in fact the turnover has been increased. The premises are most suitable for this trade.

The quality of milk coming into the creameries continues to be of good standard, and the re-introduction by the Milk Marketing Board of payment for milk, based on quality standard, has in the majority of cases led to improved quality milk from the "border-line" producers.

98% of the bulk supplies coming into the creameries for pasteurisation come from Tuberculin Tested herds. In fact two of the creameries normally have 100% T.T. Milk supply while the largest creamery has only 5 producers sending in undesignated milk.

# MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SCOTLAND) ORDER.

The following table gives the results of the bacteriologist's reports on the examination of graded milk :—

## EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

	Samples	Bacterial Count		Phosphatase		Methylene Blue		Coliform	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised . . .	52	52	—	52	—	49	3	50	2
T.T. (Pasteurised) (including School Milk)	76	73	3	74	2	72	4	72	4
Certified . . .	22	15	7	—	—	19	3	18	4
Tuberculin Tested . .	4	3	1	—	—	4	—	4	—
Total . . .	154	143	11	126	2	144	10	144	10

# MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SCOTLAND) ORDER.

The following table gives the results of the bacteriologist's reports on the examination of graded milk during the past 10 years:—

## EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES

Year	Samples	Bacterial Count		Phosphatase		Methylene Blue		Coliform	
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
1946	•	136	12	81	9	123	25	147	1
1947	•	104	9	91	2	85	28	98	15
1948	•	114	2	92	—	115	1	111	5
1949	•	118	7	97	4	123	2	118	7
1950	•	146	1	124	2	142	5	146	1
1951	•	149	1	116	4	150	—	145	5
1952	•	165	—	141	3	163	2	160	5
1953	•	147	1	115	7	145	3	139	9
1954	•	147	—	118	2	146	1	144	3
1955	•	143	11	126	2	144	10	144	10
Totals	•	1,369	44	1,101	35	1,336	77	1,352	61

The average daily production of the combined plants in the Burgh was as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk . . . 4,320 Gallons

T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk. . . 840 Gallons

**Scottish Milk Testing Scheme:**—All milk supplies coming into the creameries are tested by experienced milk testers. As a result milk standards are maintained at a high level and any failures are promptly notified to the producer concerned.

During the year 106 samples failed the 1st weekly Resazurin test; 106 samples failed the 2nd weekly test; and 3 samples failed the 3rd weekly test.

Approximately 275 gallons of milk were rejected at the platform, a very small quantity considering the warm weather during the summer months.

**School Milk:**—Attention is given to school milk supplies both in the creameries and at the schools. As already stated earlier in this report a new plant was installed at one creamery specifically to deal with school milk.

No complaints were received regarding school milk supplies during the year, and samples were taken regularly for analysis.

**Testing of Non-Designated Milk.** In accordance with the Department of Health Circular No. 17/1947, the following table shows the results of the testing of non-designated milk. All samples were submitted to the plate count and coliform tests in addition to the Methylene Blue (Hisco) Test:—

	Samples	Bacterial Count		Methylene Blue		Coliform	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Raw Milk City Producer	4	4	—	4	—	4	—

## ICE CREAM.

In contrast with the previous year, last year proved to be a record year so far as the Ice Cream trade was concerned due to the very warm summer which we experienced. The high standard achieved by the local manufacturers and dealers has been well maintained. Premises and plants continued to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

During the year registrations were granted in respect of 4 premises and 1 vehicle and the registrations of 2 premises and 3 vehicles were discontinued.

At the end of the year a total of 12 premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of Ice Cream, and 39 premises and 9 vehicles for the storage and sale of Ice Cream.



All registered premises and vehicles were inspected regularly and where necessary traders were advised regarding measures to be taken to comply with the Regulations.

The following table gives the results of samples taken during the year for chemical examination.

No. of Sample	Fat per cent	No. of Sample	Fat per cent
24	10.67	64	5.39
41	5.03	65	5.43
42	6.81	71	6.56
43	5.98	72	9.26
44	12.40	73	6.74
45	3.13	74	10.95
46	9.79	75	9.04
61	10.22	76	11.48
62	5.05	77	5.01
63	11.31	78	5.33

The average fat content was 7.78 per cent.

The following table gives the results of samples taken during the year for bacteriological examination:—

No. of Sample	Plate Count	Coliform	No. of Sample	Plate Count	Coliform
1	Sterile	Absent	16	1,000	Absent
2	1,000,000	Present	17	500	Absent
3	300	Absent	18	500	Absent
4	9,000	Present	19	12,500	Absent
5	600	Absent	20	4,500	Absent
6	400	Absent	21	2,000	Absent
7	1,000,000	Present	22	1,000,000	Present
8	Sterile	Absent	23	1,000,000	Present
9	194,000	Absent	24	3,000	Absent
10	3,000	Absent	25	4,000	Absent
11	1,000,000	Present	26	Sterile	Absent
12	120,000	Absent	27	4,000	Absent
13	65,000	Absent	28	27,000	Absent
14	55,000	Absent	29	1,000	Absent
15	1,000	Absent	30	500	Absent

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat. The following tables, supplied by the Superintendent of the Abattoir, give particulars of animals slaughtered in the Public Abattoir and the quantity of meat condemned there during the year:—

The number of animals Slaughtered and Inspected was 52,222. comprising of:—

5,582 Bullocks, 424 Cows, 21 Bulls, 295 Heifers, 8,224 Sheep, 29,378 Lambs, 7,281 Swine, 1,017 Calves, which on comparison with returns for 1954 shows an increase of 3,866 Sheep and Lambs, 1,595 Swine, but decrease of 239 Calves and 414 Cattle.

The tables given in the Report show in detail the class of animals slaughtered and the extent to which disease was prevalent.

# ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1955

Classified according to their Sex:—

TABLE I.

	Oxen	Bulls	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Lambs	Swine	Total
January .	443	2	21	21	101	476	853	527	2,444
February .	425	3	30	28	77	79	1,484	541	2,667
March .	532	2	22	39	98	97	1,252	669	2,711
April .	453	2	32	77	80	112	1,276	658	2,690
May .	503	—	28	18	62	639	227	698	2,175
June .	488	—	33	13	49	438	478	734	2,233
July .	399	2	35	2	51	431	511	587	2,018
August .	517	1	35	14	104	614	1,471	657	3,413
September .	481	2	36	21	135	951	3,491	545	5,662
October .	456	3	37	18	116	1,471	6,756	505	9,362
November .	454	3	53	27	65	1,485	7,228	543	9,858
December .	431	1	62	17	79	1,431	4,351	617	6,989
Totals	5,582	21	424	295	1,017	8,224	29,378	7,281	52,222

Number of Animals Weighed

6,322 Cattle, 37,602 Sheep and Lambs, 7,281 Swine, 1,017 Calves.

# DETAILS OF BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

TABLE II.

CLASS	Number slaughtered	Number affected with T.B.	Percentage affected with T.B.	Whole carcasses seized for T.B.	Parts of carcasses seized for T.B.	Whole Carcasses seized for other Diseases	Parts of carcasses seized for other diseases
Oxen . . .	5,582	104	1.8	2	3	3	23
Bulls . . .	21	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cows . . .	424	23	5.4	4	4	12	13
Heifers . . .	295	1	.33	1	—	4	6
Calves . . .	1,017	—	—	—	—	3	1
Sheep . . .	37,602	—	—	—	—	88	26
Swine . . .	7,281	2	—	2	—	10	20
Totals . . .	52,222	130	.2	9	7	121	90

**DISEASES NECESSITATING TOTAL OR PARTIAL  
DESTRUCTION OF CARCASSES During the Year ending 31  
DECEMBER, 1955.**

TABLE III.

	<i>Oxen</i>	<i>Bulls</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Swine</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis . . .	4	—	8	1	—	—	2	15
Tuberculosis Partial . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Emaciation . . .	2	—	3	1	1	28	—	35
Injury-partial . . .	9	—	2	2	1	—	5	19
Oedema . . .	2	—	2	1	1	27	1	34
Pyaemia . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Imperfect Bleeding . . .	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Septic Pneumonia . . .	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	5
Extensive Bruising . . .	6	—	5	3	—	10	4	28
Septic Metritis . . .	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Carcinoma . . .	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Septic Peritonitis . . .	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	5
Septic Pericarditis . . .	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	5
Fever . . .	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Abscess-partial . . .	2	—	—	—	—	3	3	8
Gangrene . . .	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Swine Erysipelas . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Medicinal . . .	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Arthritis . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Decomposition . . .	—	—	—	—	—	14	1	15
Uraemia . . .	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Pleurisy . . .	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	5
Part Actinomycosis . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Neurosis . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hernia . . .	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Mutiple Tumors . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Tumor . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Immature . . .	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Necrosis . . .	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals . . .	31	2	28	10	4	106	28	209

**ORGANS CONDEMNED AT ABBATTOIR**  
**During the year ending 31st December, 1955.**  
**TABLE IV.**

	Oxen	Bulls	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Swine	Total
<b>LUNGS</b>								
Tuberculosis	35	—	10	2	—	—	24	71
Abscess	7	—	—	—	—	2	1	10
Pneumonia	3	—	1	—	1	18	17	40
Pleurisy	—	—	1	—	—	13	13	27
Cysts	4	—	1	—	—	1	2	8
Adhesions	1	—	—	—	—	3	4	8
Carcinoma	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Actinomycosis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Emphysema	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
<b>HEARTS</b>								
Pericarditis	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	5
Abscess	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
<b>BOWELS</b>								
Tuberculosis	8	—	5	—	—	—	—	13
Johnes Disease	122	5	57	15	—	—	—	199
Peritonitis	7	—	2	2	—	4	2	17
Adhesions	14	—	2	2	—	29	17	64
Oedema	2	—	—	—	—	3	3	8
Abscess	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	4
Inflammation	24	—	2	—	—	35	13	74
<b>STOMACH</b>								
Tuberculosis	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	7
Abscess	5	—	2	—	—	—	1	8
Actinomycosis	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Ulceration	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Foreign Body	15	—	4	2	—	—	—	21
Adhesions	18	2	2	2	—	5	3	32
<b>UDDERS</b>								
Mastitis	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	21
<b>SKIRTS</b>								
Tuberculosis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
<b>SPLEENS</b>								
Tuberculosis	7	—	3	—	—	—	—	10
Inflammation	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Adhesions	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
<b>LIVERS</b>								
Tuberculosis	39	—	4	1	—	—	4	48
Abscess	62	—	5	5	1	4	—	77
Acc. Necrosis	98	—	18	7	—	—	—	123
Cirrhosis	29	—	4	4	—	—	21	58
Cavernous Angioma	6	—	5	2	—	—	—	13
Distomatosis	258	—	44	63	—	310	—	675
Actinomycosis	13	—	2	2	—	—	—	17
Fatty Degeneration	5	—	5	5	—	—	—	15
Hydatic Cysts	7	—	—	—	—	17	—	24
<b>HEADS</b>								
Tuberculosis	99	—	15	—	—	—	27	141
Actinomycosis	66	—	6	10	—	—	—	82
Abscess	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Carcinoma	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
<b>KIDNEYS</b>								
Abscess	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Cysts	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	15
Nephritis	8	—	2	—	—	5	4	19
Actinomycosis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Draining	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Totals	993	7	235	124	2	452	173	1,986

TABLE V.

## WEIGHT OF MEAT, ETC, Condemned During the Year.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
BEEF . . . . .	6	5	1	5
MUTTON . . . . .	1	9	1	24
PORK . . . . .	—	10	3	25
VEAL . . . . .	—	1	—	23
OFFAL . . . . .	13	8	—	21
	—	—	—	—
	21	15	—	14

**Other Foods.** The following table gives details of unsound foodstuffs condemned and surrendered as unfit for human consumption:—

Beef . . . . .	893 lbs.	Hors D'Oeuvres . . . . .	25 tins
Mutton . . . . .	66 lbs.	Beetroot . . . . .	8 jars
Cooked Ham (36 tins)	401 lbs.	Morfat Dripping . . . . .	1 tin
Vegetables . . . . .	382 tins	Sausages (2 tins) . . . . .	13 lbs.
Meat . . . . .	568 tins	Shredded Beef Suet . . . . .	27 lbs.
Fruit . . . . .	1159 tins	Cheese . . . . .	6 lbs.
Fruit Juice . . . . .	55 tins	Marmalade . . . . .	2 tins
Fruit . . . . .	278 lbs.	Gelatine . . . . .	1 pkt.
Fruit Salad . . . . .	5 jars	Frozen Eggs . . . . .	28 lbs.
Soup . . . . .	412 tins	Evaporated Milk . . . . .	168 tins
Jam . . . . .	28 tins	Condensed Milk . . . . .	54 tins
Tomatoes . . . . .	97 tins	Sweet Corn . . . . .	1 tin
Tomato Paste . . . . .	1 tin	Syrup . . . . .	2 tins
Tomato Juice . . . . .	31 tins	Welsh Rarebit . . . . .	1 tin
Tomato Puree . . . . .	19 tins	Macaroni . . . . .	3 tins
Tomato Sauce . . . . .	5 tins	Rice Pudding . . . . .	2 tins
Fish . . . . .	78 tins	Orange Crush . . . . .	1 bottle
Fish . . . . .	12 stones	Cream . . . . .	10 tins
Spam . . . . .	1 tin	Creamed Rice . . . . .	10 tins
Ox Tongue . . . . .	2 Jars	Cyprus New Potatoes . . . . .	2664 lbs.
Pate . . . . .	1 jar	Bananas . . . . .	78 bunch.
Crab . . . . .	1 tin	Bananas . . . . .	5½ cwt.

## FOOD HYGIENE.

At the time of writing this report the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Bill had been passed in the House of Lords and had become an Act. This Act amends and consolidates the Scottish Statutes (some of them over sixty years old) which protect the public against unfit food and adulterated food and drugs. In particular, it strengthens the existing law regarding food hygiene and the composition of food. It does not, however, deal with the hygiene of the milk supply which is the province of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Acts, 1914 to 1949.

During the debate on the Bill in the Scottish Grand Committee, the Joint Under Secretary of State for Scotland announced that all catering premises in Scotland would require to be registered.

This was a complete reversal of Government policy. When the Bill had previously been under discussion in the Committee one of the Government's arguments against registration of catering premises had been that there was no such provision in the English Bill. When the Committee



assumed consideration of amendments to the Bill on November 3rd the Under Secretary of State outlined the reasons for incorporating in the Bill a clause exempting catering premises from registration. It was thought that education and persuasion were best. He said that they must make the climate for self-discipline and conscience. Their job was to set the standard for the future and in the long run the success of the Bill would depend on the conscience of the trader and his staff and on that of the public.

Nevertheless, the case for registration put forward by opposition speakers had been given most careful consideration and the Secretary of State for Scotland had decided to accept the spirit of their proposals. We must hope that this legislation, although somewhat overdue, will perhaps eventually prove to be much stronger than that introduced south of the border and that we can now look forward with confidence to Scotland forging ahead in the fight for a clean and safe food supply.

In the meantime, special attention has been given to the condition of mobile shops and delivery vans and it is anticipated that the new regulations will strengthen our hands in this connection. Special attention has also been given to catering premises and premises in which meat products are manufactured and sold.

At one sausage and cooked meats factory new concrete floors were laid, the walls were tiled up to a height of five feet, a new hanging rail and new preparation tables were provided and also new sinks. An extractor fan was fitted in one of the roof ridge ventilators to extract steam from the meat preparation room. The smoke room was sealed off entirely from the meat preparation room and fitted with a controllable roof ventilator and other necessary repairs and redecoration carried out. The total effect of these improvements and repairs has been to make for the complete transformation of the premises and it is anticipated that when the new regulations are issued these premises will be found to meet with their requirements.

In last Year's report particulars and photographs were shown of the modernisation which had been carried out in a Pork Butcher's front shop and quoted "This is just one more practicable example of better hygiene leading to better business" and I suggested that others might do well to follow this example. I am pleased to say that this has in fact taken place and another Pork Butcher's front shop has also been completely modernised by the combining of two separate shops into one.

The floor of the shop was laid with Justoid linoleum squares, the walls were lined with white formica up to frieze level, the counters were fitted with marble slabs, the window spaces were laid with tiles, stainless steel rails were provided for hanging meat, artificial lighting was provided by fluorescent units, plastic venetian blinds were fitted to the windows. A new cold store was also provided. Here again the proprietor reports a great increase in sales since these improvements to the premises were effected.



## SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

**Hanging Accommodation:** As stated in the report for 1954, the Town Council passed a scheme whereby the main passage at the Corporation Abattoir would be converted into an extension of the cooling hall. The scheme was carried out in full and at the time of writing this report was almost completed with the exception of fixing the ventilator on the roof. It is found that the new hanging space is working very satisfactorily and allows the carcasses to be hung with sufficient space between them to afford proper cooling.

**Lairage Accommodation:** The scheme which the Town Council has passed in principle for increasing the lairage accommodation by an extension into the South Inch has been suspended meantime owing to the curb on Capital Expenditure. It is hoped that authority will be given to proceed with this scheme as soon as conditions permit.

**Loading of Carcasses:** At present all the loading of carcasses is done at one end of the Abattoir in the open. A scheme has been passed by the Town Council for this space to be roofed over so that the carcasses will then be loaded under cover. It is hoped to have this work completed some time in the current year.

## LICENSED PREMISES.

The general standard in licensed premises continued to improve and during the past year the following were among the works carried out at various premises:—

- (1) New lounge and dominoes room with W.C., wash-hand basin and urinal slab for gent's; one W.C. and two wash-hand basins entering off vestibule from new entrance for ladies. Twin stainless steel sinks with hot and cold supply under lounge bar. Walls of new lounge treated with Canadian Edgewood Panelling.
- (2) Cocktail bar provided.
- (3) Games room and store with passage from cocktail lounge on first flat with ladies W.C. and wash-hand basin in apartment off passage.
- (4) Reconstruction of premises including provision of 8 ft. urinal for gents and W.C. and wash-hand basin off intervening ventilated space and W.C. and wash-hand basin off intervening ventilated space for ladies.

There has been some discussion in the press recently about the poor standard of licensed premises in Scotland compared with those in England.

In previous Annual Reports I have made special mention of the steps taken by the trade itself to improve the condition of licensed premises in the City.

I think I can safely say that the general standard of such premises in Perth is now very good and is perhaps better than in any other town in Scotland and will probably compare favourably with any south of the border.

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The following table shows the number of samples taken under the above Acts.

Article	Genuine		Not Genuine		Total	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Sweet Milk	—	4	1	—	1	4
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	—	16	—	—	—	16
T.T. Milk	—	3	1	—	1	3
Certified Milk	—	15	—	—	—	17
		2 broken in transit				
Pasteurised Milk	—	10	—	—	—	10
Ice Cream	—	19	—	1	—	20
Shell Egg	—	1	—	—	—	1
Beef Suet	—	2	—	—	—	2
Prunes	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ground Rice	—	1	—	—	—	1
Custard Powder	—	1	—	—	—	1
Jelly Crystals	—	1	—	—	—	1
Steamed Pudding	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mixture	—	1	—	—	—	1
Arrowroot	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cream of Tartar	—	1	—	—	—	1
Olive Oil	—	1	—	—	—	1
Glycerine and Blackcurrant Pastilles	—	1	—	—	—	1
Blackcurrant Jam	—	1	—	—	—	1
Chicken and Ham Paste	—	1	—	—	—	1
Creamed Chicken Soup	—	1	—	—	—	1
Portugese Sardines	—	1	—	—	—	1
Sausage Meat	—	—	—	1	—	1
Sausages	—	1	—	—	—	1
Mince	1	3	2	2	3	5
Mixed Spice	—	1	—	—	—	1
Fireballs (Confection)	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dutch Drops	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tomato Puree	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tomato Juice	—	1	—	—	—	1
Condensed Skimmed Milk	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cyder	—	1	—	—	—	1
Whisky	4	—	—	—	4	—
Stout	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ale	—	1	—	—	—	1
Luncheon Meat	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ice Lollie	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cream	—	1	—	—	—	1
Sterilised Cream	—	1	—	—	—	1
Whipped Cream	—	1	—	—	—	1
Synthetic Cream	—	1	—	—	—	1

Article	Genuine		Not Genuine		Total	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Lemon Essence . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Yoghourt . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cheese Special . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Fish Cakes . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cooking Fat . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Malt Vinegar . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dried Mixed Vegetables . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Saccharin Tablets . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Butter Cream . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Toffees . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Plum Jam . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Syrup of Figs . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cream of Turkey Soup . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pilchards in Tom. Sauce . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Minced Chicken Paste . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
Butter . . .	—	3	—	—	—	3
Margarine . . .	—	3	—	—	—	3
Total	5	122	4	4	9	128
		2 broken	in transit			

## PROSECUTIONS.

In connection with the two non-genuine formal samples of mince in one case the sample was found to contain 940 parts of sulphur dioxide per million and in the other case 550 parts per million whereas according to the Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) (Scotland) Regulations 1925-1953, mince during the month of November in any year should not contain any sulphur dioxide. The butchers concerned pled guilty to the contraventions and a fine of £5 or 20 days was imposed in each case.

One formal sample of milk taken in course of delivery to one of the creameries was found to be not-genuine in respect that it was deficient in milk solids other than milk fat to the extent of 5 per cent or thereby. The sample contained 8.06 per cent of milk solids other than milk fat whereas genuine T.T. Milk should contain not less than 8.5 per cent of milk solids other than milk fat according to the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901.

The Hortvet test indicated the presence of about 6 per cent of added water.

The dairyman concerned pled guilty and a fine of £4 was imposed.

Another sample of milk which was also taken in course of delivery to a creamery was found to be not-genuine in respect that it was deficient in milk solids other than milk fat to the extent of 13 per cent or thereby. The sample contained 7.39 per cent of milk solids other than milk fat whereas genuine Sweet Milk should contain not less than 8.5 per cent

milk solids other than milk fat according to the Sale of Milk Regulations 1901.

The Hortvet test showed the presence of about 15 per cent of added water.

As this particular consignment consisted of 100 gallons of milk it meant that the analysis showed the addition of about 15 gallons of added water.

An original plea of not guilty was changed to one of guilty and a fine of £5 or 10 days was imposed on the dairyman concerned.

**Court Proceedings:**—The date of the court proceedings was in February of this year but the result is included in last year's report for record purposes.

The following table gives particulars of prosecutions taken since 1945.

Year	Nature of Contravention	Result
1945	Adulterated Sweet Milk	£5 Fine
1946	Adulterated Whisky	£8 or 60 Days
1946	Adulterated Whisky	£8 or 60 Days
1946	Obstruction of Sampling Officer	£10 or 60 Days
1946	Adulterated Sweet Milk	£1 Fine
1947	Adulterated Whisky	£5 Fine
1947	Adulterated Rum	£8 Fine
1947	Adulterated Sweet Milk	£5 or 30 Days
1947	Adulterated Sweet Milk	£2 Fine
1949	Adulterated Sweet Milk	£10 Fine
1950	Preservative in Mince	£5 Fine
1950	Preservative in Mince	£2 Fine
1951	Ice Cream Deficient in Fat	£7 or 60 Days
1951	Sale of Ice Cream by Unregistered Dealer	£1 or 10 Days
1952	Adulterated Sweet Milk	Not Guilty
1952	Adulterated Sweet Milk	Admonished
1952	Preservative in Slicing Sausage	£3 or 30 Days
1952	Preservative in Mince	£3 or 30 Days
1954	Preservative in Mince	£1 or 10 Days
1955	Adulterated T.T. Milk	£4 Fine
1955	Preservative in Mince	£5 or 20 Days
1955	Preservative in Mince	£5 or 20 Days
1955	Adulterated Sweet Milk	£5 or 10 Days

23 Prosecutions were taken. In 22 cases convictions were recorded and in 1 case the accused was found not guilty. The total fines imposed amounted to £103.

This indicates that the outcome of any prosecutions taken were very successful. It has sometimes been said that prosecutions are really a sign of weakness, but it may be equally well claimed that no prosecutions are a sign of even greater weakness in administration. It may be noted that most of the fines concerned in prosecutions were in connection with the adulteration of milk and whisky and the addition of preservative to mince.

I wish to record my appreciation of the very close co-operation given by the Burgh Prosecutor, Mr. J. T. Douglas in the preparation and presentation of these cases before the court.



## PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

Premises of listed sellers of poisons under Part II of the Poisons List were visited, and advice given as to the requirements of the Act and Rules.

## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Two informal samples of grain and turnip fertilisers were taken during the year. The results of the analyses agreed with the statements of guarantee within the limits of variation as laid down by the Regulations.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

At the end of the year work was in progress for the construction of new Ladies' and Gents' Conveniences in Hospital Street to replace the out of date accommodation at King Street.

A town may be very often judged by the standard of its public conveniences. Perth is becoming more and more one of the main centres of the tourist trade in Scotland and every effort has been made to raise the general standard of public conveniences in the city.

The undernoted improvements have been made to public conveniences during the past ten years.

1945. Obsolete and insanitary trough closets removed. Out of date Gents' Convenience at West Mill Street closed. Convenience at Elibank Street demolished. Convenience at Feus Road and St. Leonard's Bridge improved.

1946. King Street Gents' Convenience:—Old stall urinals removed and new slab urinals substituted.

Cherrybank Gents' Convenience:—Trough closets removed and additional wash-down W.C. provided.

1951. New Ladies' and Gents' Conveniences constructed at Dundee Road. Ladies' Convenience at Canal Street reconstructed. Old underground Gents' Convenience at Strathmore Street demolished.

1952. Gents' Convenience at Speygate reconstructed.

1953. New Ladies' and Gents' Conveniences erected at Strathmore Street. Existing Gents' Convenience at Back Wynd closed.

1955. Convenience at Back Wynd demolished.

The amount collected from the coin-operated locks during the year was £1,562 12s. 10d. as compared with £1,444 3s. 9d. in 1954. £1,277 7s. 2d. was collected from the Ladies' Conveniences, and £285 5s. 8d. from the Gents'.

The following table shows the amount collected from the Public Conveniences during the past ten years.

Year	Ladies	Gents	Total
1946	£656 4 2	£220 1 7	£876 5 9
1947	680 13 11	208 2 7	888 16 6
1948	735 14 8	163 18 7	899 13 3
1949	756 18 1	173 11 10	930 9 11
1950	759 17 8	173 0 0	932 17 8
1951	877 18 3	214 10 3	1,092 8 6
1952	1,046 14 0	239 2 0	1,285 16 0
1953	1,098 5 9	262 4 7	1,360 10 4
1954	1,170 8 9	273 15 0	1,444 3 9
1955	1,277 7 2	285 5 8	1,562 12 10
Totals	£9,060 2 5	£2,213 12 1	£11,273 14 6

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I wish to acknowledge the kind co-operation and assistance which I continue to receive from all officials of other Departments and my indebtedness to those who have supplied information for inclusion in this report.

It is with great regret that I have to record the loss which the Department sustained by the sudden death of Miss Bessie Moncrieff whilst on holiday last year. Miss Moncrieff had given thirty years very valuable service as clerkess/typist in the Department.

To my Depute, Mr. John H. Irvine and other members of the staff I record my sincere appreciation of their valuable assistance during the past year.

I am,

My Lord Provost, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

WM. McBRYDE, F.R.San.I.,

*Sanitary Inspector.*







